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WITH DOUBLE SUPPLEMENT AND PRINT.

REVENUE AND TAXATION.



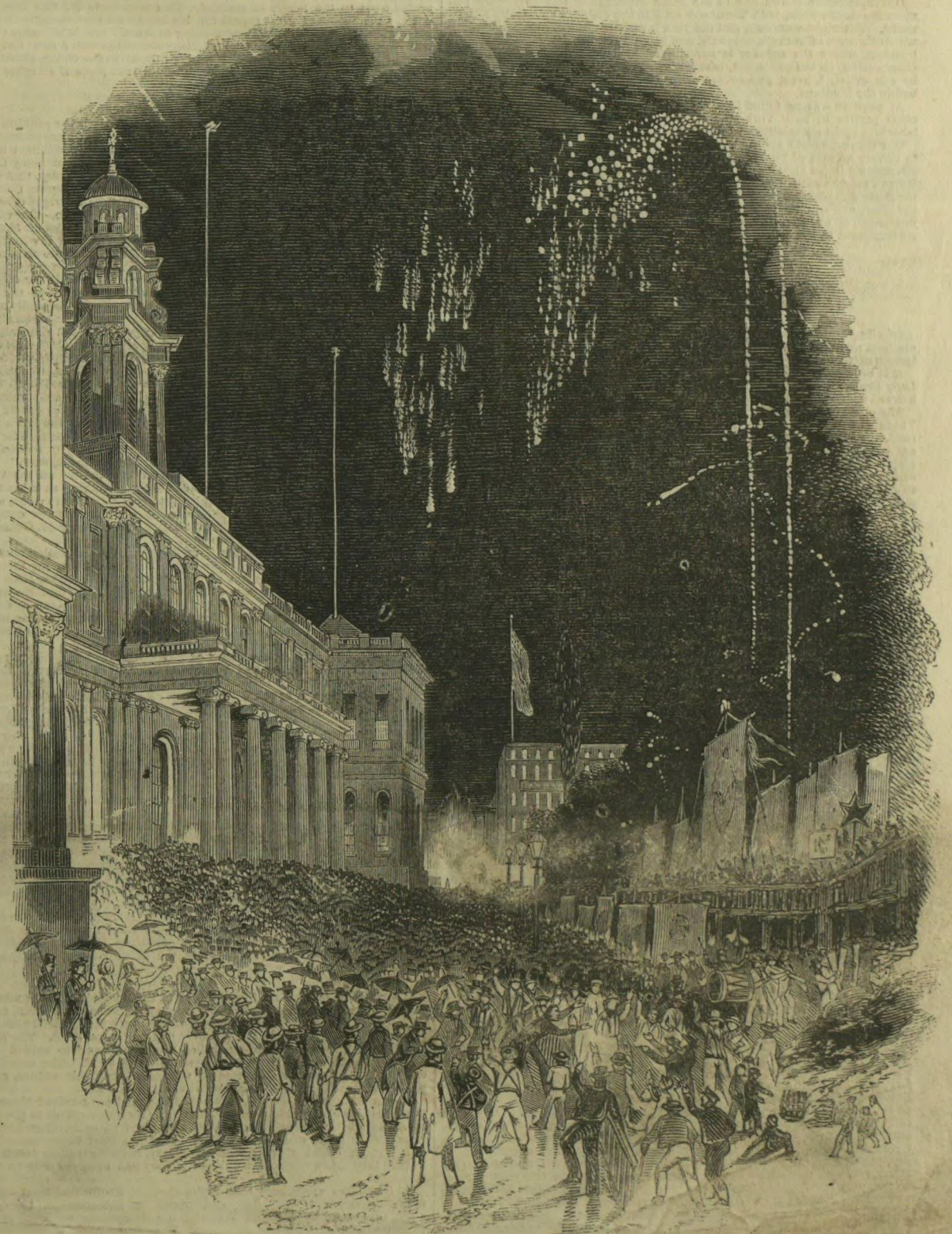
NOT OF what imposes their necessities will compel them to put on. This result the friends of the party in power attribute to the ability and skill of the Premier; his opponents assert that good luck has had as much to do with it as good management. Neither assertion is wholly correct, for the truth seems to be that both ability and good fortune have co-operated. The Minister called on the nation for extra exertion, at a time when it had become absolutely necessary, and the effort the nation has made has been seconded by two good harvests, and a revival of trade and commerce, which had for some time been depressed. The last years of the official existence of the Whigs were years of embarrassment, from which no Government could have saved the country. America was convulsed, England was suffering, our people were unemployed, masses of them indeed in a state bordering on insurrection. This state of things continued during the first year and a half of the present Government, and without the two better harvests, the revival of the Foreign Trade and the consequent employment of the people, even the Property Tax would not have saved us from public distress. It must always be borne in mind that the improved condition of the people is the greatest, best, and surest cause of an increased Revenue; a Property Tax has only got to be levied with a sufficiently strong application of the "screw," and a surplus Revenue may always be obtained, even if we had a war on our hands, as we have had ere now. A mere surplus of Revenue, then, is not an infallible index of national prosperity. It depends entirely on the sources from which that Revenue comes, whether it can be taken as a test of this kind or not.

It is for this reason we so heartily congratulate the country on the last Revenue returns. There is increase in every department; not merely in those of direct taxation, in which a Minister may always have an increase, if he has boldness enough to impose it, to a large amount, and exact it with sufficient severity, or (which is of course understood) can procure the authority of Parliament to do so. The Executive has powerful machinery in its hands, and can always make the people pay, but cannot compel them to consume. This is regulated on quite another principle. The Assessed Taxes might be raised in amount, and the Property Tax might be made fourteenpence in the pound instead of sevenpence; and those who had the property could not escape the contribution. But no power can make a people consume more tea, or more sugar, or import more tax-paying articles from abroad than they are able to buy; an increase in these departments of the Revenue is an unfailing proof of an improved condition in the masses of the people, and that increase the present returns exhibit; as we before said, we congratulate the public on the fact. We trust we have entered on a cycle of prosperous years, and, blessed with a continuance of peace, it is scarcely doubtful that the Revenue will again be supplied in the manner which, in a time of peace, it ought to be—by the ability of the people to use not only the necessities that merely support life, but the luxuries that add comfort to it.

That this ability is returning has been evident, from the Revenue returns of the three quarters preceding the one just ended, and the present return affords a still stronger proof of it. The increase in the Customs for the year is £1,300,000; in the Excise, £350,000, over the year preceding: the people have spent thus much more money that has found its way to the Exchequer, it being, of course, necessary that they should first have it to spend. The power of gaining this fund, from the expenditure of which so much public and social good is derived, should be the object of every statesman to secure to the people.

As the Revenue of the State now exceeds the demands on it, the Government will be pressed for a remission of Taxation. Every class represented in Parliament, has its "favourite aversion" in the shape of a Tax which it will be greatly for the public interest and their own to have removed. The Agriculturists will try hard to get rid of the Malt Tax, against which they have been labouring for years; meetings have already been held to resolve on pressing the question in the ensuing session. But the amount raised by it is so large, that, even with the Income Tax, it could not be spared, and without it, must be retained from the sheer impossibility of laying on a Tax equally productive anywhere else. Some of the Assessed Taxes, the Window Tax for instance, might be taken off with advantage, for they are unpopular, troublesome to pay and to receive, and not very productive after all. Our Import Duties might be revised

with safety, as a reduction in them is by no means synonymous with loss to the Revenue, increased consumption at the lower rate soon making up any temporary deficiency, and bringing the produce of the tax up to the old amount, or even beyond it. The enormously high duties on tobacco, for instance, are defeating themselves; they encourage smuggling, injure the fair trader, deteriorate the article, and are introducing extensive frauds into the trade in it. The duty on tea used to be levied on the *ad valorem* principle; for some reason this plan was given up, and the tax is now uniform. The consequence is, the poor consumer is taxed much more highly than the rich one; the best qualities of tea pay far less in proportion to their price than the inferior kinds. Taxes on the raw material imported to be used by us in manufactures, have been pronounced bad in principle by Sir Robert Peel and it is more than probable he will take advantage of the favour-



GREAT "DEMOCRATIC" MASS MEETING IN THE PARK, AT NEW YORK.—See next page.

able state of things to take them off altogether, especially as the amount raised by them is not so large as to admit no possibility of being made up in another direction.

Against all these taxes there will be some kind of agitation in Parliament and out of it, and as Ministries seldom err on the side of too great a readiness to make reductions, those who expect many of them run the risk of being disappointed. But one tax there is, the continuance of which will create universal dissatisfaction. The Income-tax was imposed from necessity, which, happily, no longer existing, the tax itself may surely be suffered to cease at the period the Act fixes for its expiration. This is the first question to be settled by the Budget of the year; if it should be thought necessary to keep the machinery of the Act together in readiness for future emergencies, at least the tax may be reduced in amount, and some distinction drawn between real property—which is safe, certain, and transferable from generation to generation—and the income made by professional exertions, which is as variable as individual talent, and as uncertain as death and disease, either of which can destroy what is wealth to-day, by paralysing to-morrow both the skilful hand and the busy brain that directed it. There is nothing fairer or more just than a tax on Property; but to lay the same amount on the income created by skill only, is to create a manifest inequality, which we know has acted oppressively, and will continue to do so as long as the tax remains as at present fixed. The time has arrived for a re-adjustment of it, and we trust it will be effected with all the prudence of a wise statesman, and with some of the generosity of a just one.

GREAT "DEMOCRATIC" MASS MEETING AT NEW YORK.

This is an imposing demonstration of one of the old parties in New York—"the Democrats"—whose conduct, according to the *New York Herald*, has given rise to "a new organisation of the people, having for its basis a mixture of good sense, religion, practical utility, and some small portions of intolerance and folly." "The movement," states this journal, "originated singularly enough within the bosom of the democratic party, and grew out of the tampering of the democratic leaders with a certain portion of naturalised citizens who happened to be banded together in consequence of their being born in Ireland. The 'native' portion of the democratic party saw, year after year, little beggar-men rising up, hunting after the Irish vote, sometimes for one purpose and sometimes for another, and began to doubt the policy of such conduct. And then, very naturally, when on a certain occasion Bishop Hughes and the Irish attempted to exercise a direct control in the political affairs of the country, these native democrats broke away, and formed the nucleus of the 'native' party. This movement then took its rise in the abuses perpetrated by 'native' leaders of the democratic ranks, but it has grown and thriven by an appeal to the general feeling of certain classes belonging to all parties, and may be now justly regarded as embracing within its limits the great masses of the two old parties in this city. Among the democrats, so far as regards the local ticket here, there is a strong spirit of disaffection already, particularly in relation to the exclusion of the Bible from certain schools.

Our illustration shows one of the Mass Meetings of this party—the Democrats—in the Park, with Tammany Hall in the distance splendidly illuminated. The night was dark, and the rain is pouring down, notwithstanding which showers of rockets, serpents, and Roman candles were fired from the hustings, where the speaker is surrounded by boys holding torches; another orator, on the pavement, is similarly attended. At the moment chosen by our artist, a great procession, with music, banners, &c., was passing before the hustings.

At page 20 will be found illustrations of the great gatherings of the two old parties in New York—the "Natives," and the "Whigs;" all from laborious and very minute sketches by our artist at New York.

Our Correspondent assures us that it is scarcely possible for pen or pencil to convey an idea of the wild oriental beauty of these Park Meetings. Two Drummond lights shed a silvery radiance over the congregated thousands; Roman candles ascend perpendicularly from the City Hall, and rockets from the three different hustings; while, glittering through the dark trunks of the trees, and winding its way through the dense crowd, a fairy-like procession of countless banners and lanterns gave an indescribable air of enchantment to the whole.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARISIANA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Wednesday.

Of all melancholy events, perhaps none can surpass in poignancy that of seeing a man in the zenith of his power and glory, and charged with the interests of thousands, struck with mental aberration.

It is but two years since that the excellent Baron Maltzan (the father of Lady Beauvale), the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Prussia experienced such a dread visitation.

The case of M. Villemain, which has just occurred, is still more lamentable. Those who have become acquainted with French literature, not through its modern novels and other impure sources, but through the classical channels, are aware that M. Villemain is the Quintilian of France. Never was his pen dipped in gall or in impurity; the greatest critic of France, his powers of oratory have likewise had no drawback, but the hesitation of a taste difficult to satisfy—of one who would give no utterance to aught that could wound either the ear, the judgment, or the feelings of his auditors. His double talents, as writer and orator—the estimation in which M. Villemain was held as a man—led to his being gradually withdrawn from his first career of literature—soon he was beheld a Minister of State, although possessing no influence, and utterly no fortune, but his abilities. Disappointed, like so many other men are, in his first affection, M. Villemain married the accomplished daughter of a general, a lady also without fortune. After giving birth to three daughters, this lady gradually betrayed symptoms more and more marked of mental hallucination. The husband, loth to believe the terrible truth, humouring her caprices, and strove to appease her outbursts, and long after the complaint had taken the most formidable aspect, he refused to have recourse to the seclusion and coercion which at last became imperatively necessary. The arduous duties of his office was the refuge in which this great literary character found, for a time, partial oblivion for his bereavement; but this solace was doomed to cease. The project of Law for Instruction, in France, debated the last parliamentary session, which agitated all educated classes, and was destined to be reproduced this season, rested entirely upon M. Villemain's responsibility. All parties in the meantime, and particularly the Jesuits, assailed him and worked upon his sensitive feelings and his conscience, and with such baneful effect, that a few days since he suddenly became the prey of mental alienation, another example how nearly allied to madness is genius. His malady has reached the utmost bounds, and now it is hoped he will become daily more placable, and ultimately recover. In the meantime, without the least fortune, burdened with a wife, herself insane, his only solace are three daughters, on whom the misfortune of their parents will ever weigh most heavily. The Duchess de Cazes is going to take charge of the children, and the State will do its duty, it is to be hoped, towards so great and glorious a member of the Commonwealth. But still the case is one of the most painful interest to all who love genius and literature. To show the source of M. de Villemain's aberration, I must state that when he leapt out of window a few days since, he called out that the Jesuits were pursuing him; he refused to take food for three days running, imagining that the followers of Ignatius Loyola were tampering with his food, as destined him to the same premature fate as the amiable Pope Ganganelli, and the philosopher Emperor Joseph II. But he has lucid intervals: he told his attendants they had been right to prevent his access to his shaving apparatus and razors, and soon after he exclaimed in a tone that moved all present to tears, "Alas! my three poor children, with a mad father, and a mad mother!"

Let us now turn to a more pleasing topic. Balls are beginning to be more frequent here, and society is taking a brighter aspect. The Countess d'Appony has fixed on Monday as her day of receptions, and she gives every week a ball or a rout. The Wednesday is engrossed by Madame Pazzo; the Sunday evenings by the Sardinian Embassy, where the ambassadress, Madame de Brignolles, enchants every one by her graceful hospitality. The Bavarian Embassy will soon give *soirées dansantes* every Wednesday. Nothing would be better adapted to promote the sociability and ease which form the charm of Parisian society, than this habit of receptions on a particular day, which extends also to morning visits. By this means, instead of the tediousness of a round of calls—in which, as I have often heard your fair countrywomen say, you always miss the persons you most wish to see, and find yourselves *tête à tête* with those who are almost strangers—you are not only sure of finding your friends at home, but also meet all your acquaintance at the house you visit. Besides the *soirées* I have already mentioned, Mrs. Tudor has commenced her balls for the season with great brilliancy.

Much anxious expectation is excited amongst our belles, by a projected fancy ball at the house of the Baroness Delmar, in which they are to appear in the costumes of the court of Queen Anne. The Ministers will also, it is expected, perform their part in the festivities of the season. Amongst the

diplomatic *réunions*, one of the most brilliant will, probably, be the *fête* of the President Sauzet, which he was prevented giving last year by the death of his father. The splendid rooms of the Duke de Nemours are being fitted up with great magnificence, in preparation for the court balls, which will this year be given by the future Regent, instead of the King, to whom these ceremonies are become too fatiguing. The receptions, however, at court have been very brilliant. Amongst all the foreign costumes, the one which excited the most attention was a Highland uniform, worn with scrupulous accuracy by a Scotch lion, Mr. M—G—. The toilettes of the ladies were surpassingly splendid. Madame Lladères wore a satin dress covered with lace, of such peculiar magnificence as to attract the attention of one of the Princesses, who complimented her upon it. At a short distance from her stood Madame Lehon, who had returned to the fashion of our grandmothers, her hair being covered by a light powder. The beautiful Duchess d'Istrie and her sister, the Countess de la Ferronaye, dressed one in pink, the other in light green, velvet, attracted all eyes, both by their personal charms and the fantastic contrast of their costumes. None of the ladies present, however, equalled in the splendour of her diamonds your fair countrywoman, the Marchioness of Aylesbury: she was literally covered with them. Her dress was in blue velvet, trimmed with guipure. Much interest was created by the youthful Duchess d'Aumale, on whose arm the Queen leant, as she presented her to the more favoured of her guests. The hair of the Royal bride is of that peculiar yellow, or rather golden, tint, which is so uncommon in southern climates. The Queen wore on her shoulders a splendid Moorish scarf, exquisitely embroidered in gold, silver, and purple silk.

By-the-by, letters received from Washington bring a brilliant account of the prospects of the season under the auspices of Mrs. Polk, the pretty and graceful wife of the new President. The fair Presidentess, who has the greatest love for the pleasures of society, will, it is expected, bring back the days of the cheerful and sociable hospitality of Mrs. Madison, which rendered the society of Washington so attractive.

The rumours afloat concerning the change of ministry, must have, ere this, reached you; and you have, perhaps, also heard the report that the King himself had taken a secret part in the intrigues practised against the Cabinet, in the idea that a new ministry might have greater success in bringing forward the law for the dotation of the Duke de Nemours. This report, which appears to be perfectly false, originated in the fact that M. Edmond Blanc, a Deputy and Inspector of the Civil List, having just lost his very lucrative situation, attempted to revenge himself by intriguing against the Cabinet; and some of those wisacres found out in this a deep-laid scheme, fostered by the King himself. Louis Philippe, however, put an end to all doubt on the subject by his cordial reception of M. Belleyne, and his expression of disapprobation of those dupes or intriguers who presumed to doubt his sincerity. The word intriguers faithfully reported to Messrs. Thiers and Molé, has caused the greatest irritation.

One of the literary novelties which at this moment creates most interest, is a curious "Histoire Intime," of the reign of Charles I., by M. Philarette Charles, a professor of the College de France. This melancholy page of history, utterly exhausted as regards the narration of public events, yet required, to fill up the picture, a fuller detail of minute circumstances, and of those trivialities which, although they escape the notice of the general historian, may be often traced as the causes of the greatest and most important events.

The high court of judicature, Cour Royale, in which such dire contention took place last year, between the judges and the body of lawyers practising in the court, has become once more the scene of discord. The numerous officers of the Crown, in the former quarrel, had been the arbitrators, and had brought the belligerents to terms of peace; but the lawyers have not forgotten that their *royal* brethren had inclined towards the judges, and they seized the first opportunity of a revenge. The Court is now discussing and preparing the law of prison discipline, and whatever the law officers and King's counsel propose, is at once contradicted and negated by the remainder of the body. Hence, heart-burnings and gnashing of teeth. The courts of justice are the theatres whose performances are the most sedulously and most eagerly attended. The trial of M. de Maupas for assassination has been a choice performance. The conjugal *fracas* witnessed by the public, betwixt an opulent sculptor and his beautiful wife, was expected to afford great recreation to the fair and fashionable frequenters of the law courts; but the application made by the husband was only for separation, and no defence was made, so the affair terminated without the expected treat to the lovers of scandal. To compensate for this disappointment, a gentleman of great repute for his handsome person, agreeable manners, and witty conversation, and moving in literary and fashionable society, will very shortly undergo his trial for being connected with a most dangerous band of robbers. As to myself, I consider Paris as the choice abode of infallible novelty, and that an earthquake would take place if all other means of creating a sensation had ceased to exist.

FRANCE.

The great topic of interest and discussion in Paris is the position of the Ministry, and as may be well imagined, very different views are promulgated. The Ministerial papers express their confidence that they will have a majority on the Address, whilst the Opposition press asserts that many Conservatives have joined their ranks. The *Presse* states, confidently, that on the three great questions which must necessarily be discussed during the debate on the Address in the Chamber of Deputies—viz., 1st, the right of search; 2nd, the occupation of Tahiti; 3rd, the treaty with Morocco,—the majority of the Chamber has never been in perfect accord with the present Ministers.

According to the *Sibele*, M. Guizot is himself persuaded of his inability to avert the threatened overthrow of his Cabinet. That paper goes on to observe—"The Ministers, in order to gain time to reduce the refractory Conservatives to obedience, had proposed to retard as much as possible the debate on the address. The examination of the documents with respect to the treaty with Morocco and the affair of Tahiti might have afforded a pretext for an adjournment, if M. Guizot had not taken care to select the documents to be laid before the Chambers. It was likewise suggested, that time might be gained by calling on the Chamber to occupy itself immediately with the examination of the budget, which was distributed to the Deputies on Monday. We advise the Ministers, if ever they entertained such an idea, to abandon it. It is not the custom of the Chamber to commence its labours until the existence of the Ministry shall have been established, provisionally at least, by the vote on the address. If the Minister is of opinion that the debate on the regular business of the Chamber is about to commence at too late a period, he has two legitimate modes of remedying the inconvenience. The first is by advancing the opening of the session; the second by hastening the debates, which ought to terminate by the judgment of the majority."

On Monday the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the Address held a meeting, at which M. Guizot gave some explanations as to his foreign policy, which, according to the *Debats*, were very satisfactory; but, according to the *Constitutionnel*, were so much the reverse, that the committee insisted upon having further papers laid before them, which M. Guizot promised to do.

Admiral Dupetit Thouars received, on Tuesday, the deputation charged to offer him the sword of honour. The admiral thanked them for their good intentions, but refused this mark of public sympathy, declaring that he had done nothing but obey the orders of his Government, and that it was for it to blame or recompense him.

The illness of M. Villemain continued to excite great sympathy in Paris, and we are happy to find that the *Debats* entertains great hopes of his recovery. That paper says:—

"It is with the liveliest sentiment of interest that the public inquires after the health of M. Villemain, and indulges in the hope of soon seeing this eminent man, as elevated by the qualities of his heart as by the faculties of his mind, restored to health, to the blessings of repose, to the consolations which he found in his children, and to the literary works which have rendered him illustrious. The misfortune which strikes a great citizen is a public grief, and on this ground no person could meet with more sympathy in all ranks of society than the eloquent professor, whose language and knowledge have so long charmed and instructed youth, whose writings have so much contributed to disseminate and maintain a noble style of writing, and who, after having served with glory the cause of education and literature, devoted himself with so much sincerity to the defence of our institutions and our liberties. We are convinced that so fine an organization, fatigued for a moment by so many struggles and so much occupation, will eventually triumph over the accidents which we all lament so deeply; and we learn with the greatest satisfaction that already the calm and intelligent cares with which he is surrounded have notably ameliorated the state of the illustrious patient."

It was understood that Count Molé would, in the debate on the address, repel the attack made on him in the Ministerial journals, of having been "at the head of an intrigue."

The Commerce announces that the French Government has concluded a second treaty of commerce with the Belgian Government. The object of this treaty is to extend the period for admitting Belgian linen-cloth and thread into France at a reduced duty, the existing treaty having but two years to run.

SPAIN.

It appears by the letters from Madrid of the 1st inst., that the meeting of the Chamber of Deputies had been again postponed until the 6th, to afford M. Mon time to terminate the budget and mature his financial plans. The reports of modifications in the Ministry had nearly subsided. The Minister of Finance had ordered the officers of his department to collect all the materials necessary to prepare a new Customs' tariff. The accounts received from all parts of the country were of a favourable nature, the most perfect tranquillity prevailing everywhere.

It was reported in Madrid that accounts had been received there of the safe arrival in Portugal of General Zurbano. He was escorted to the frontier by strong parties of contrabandistas, who relieved each other alternately from post to post; and who faithfully performed their engagement to conduct him safely out of the Spanish territory, notwithstanding the immense reward they knew they were sure of if they had betrayed him to the Government.

El *Castellano* announces that Major-General Shelly had been appointed Captain-General of Catalonia, and would be succeeded in the government of Seville by General Warleta, the temporary commander of the province.

PORTUGAL.

We hear from Lisbon, under date of the 31st of December, that the Cortes were to be opened on the 2nd of January by the Queen in person. In the

meantime, Costa Cabral has made a new batch of eight peers, of which he himself is one, the others being—1. His colleague of Foreign Affairs, Gomez de Castro; 2. Pimentel Freire; 3. F. Caldeira Pinto Leite; 4. Don Carlos de Mascarenhas, Commander of the Municipal Guard, and brother to the Marquis de Fronteira; 5. Don Manuel de Portugal; 6. Baron de Vargem; and 7. Count Sabugal. Of the eight new peers, only one, M. Pimentel Freire, has been taken from the Lower House, excepting, of course, the two ministers, who were both members of it. To fill up the vacancies thus left, new elections will be proceeded with, though it is scarcely worth while to take that trouble, as the ensuing session will be the last of the Chamber of Deputies; and three votes will not be missed out of the large majority which the Government can command in it.

Another monster company, with a *paper* capital of 40,000 contos, or about eleven millions sterling, was in process of formation. Zurbano was said to have been in Portugal, and to have found means of leaving that country.

UNITED STATES.

By the packet ship St. Patrick, which has arrived at Liverpool, New York papers have been received to the 18th ult. The news they communicate is important. There have been some rather serious abolition riots in Ohio, originating with slave owners, and a struggle on the part of some negroes to escape from bondage, the latter being aided by a party of American Abolitionists.

A paper published at Georgetown, near Cincinnati, in Ohio, gives an account of the riot as occurring between some Kentucky negro-hunters and a number of Abolitionists residing in the Red Oak settlement. The runaway negroes had been secreted in the houses of Robert Miller and Absalom King.

Miller's house was searched, and two of the slaves discovered, who attempted to escape, and while Miller was in the act of aiding their escape he was knocked down and stabbed repeatedly by the incensed Kentuckians. He lingered but a few moments and died. The two slaves were then bound, when they proceeded to the house of King, where they were met by four or five armed men, who declared their determination to resist any search of the house. Both parties being well armed, a most horrible conflict ensued. A son of Colonel Towers was killed immediately. King, while reloading some of the fire arms in the house, was shot by some one through the window in the back part of the house, and was not expected to survive. The sheriff and his posse arrived and checked the riot, and the ringleaders of each party were arrested.

But another band of Kentuckians soon arrived and commenced another scene of bloodshed. One of the slaves was hung without ceremony for resisting a brother of Col. Towers, who had captured him. The houses of Miller and King were burned to the ground with all their contents. They then went to the house of Mr. Alexander Gilliland, tore him away from his family, and beat him until his life was despaired of.

The *Telegraph* adds, "The number of the Kentuckians is increasing hourly, and the whole neighbourhood is up in arms."

The *Washington Constitution* says, a report has reached Washington that Mexico has closed her ports against the United States. No other paper, however, mentions such a rumour.

The proceedings in Congress on the 16th were important. The House of Representatives has suspended the ordinary rules, in order to permit a Mr. Duncan to introduce a bill for the extension of the United States jurisdiction over the Oregon territory. This is, in point of fact, giving permission to this gentleman to introduce a bill for American occupation of the country in dispute.

Objections were started to the introduction of the bill, and a division of the house took place on a motion to suspend the rules, and the votes stood 129 against 53. Accordingly the rules were suspended, and the bill reported, and read a first and second time, and referred over to the Territories Committee.

The *New York Herald* mentions a rumour that the French have taken possession of the islands of Wallace and Fortuna.

The Americans in the Oregon territory have formed themselves a Government, elected executive and legislative officers, and established courts of justice.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the state of American finances has been presented to Congress. It is a very lengthy document, occupying five closely-printed columns of the New York papers. It sets out with a long dissertation on the subject of the public faith, which Americans must look upon as a capital sort of joke, seeing how wholly at variance the recommendation of head-quarters is with the actual conduct of the people.

It states the public debt to be 24,745,188 dollars. The resources of the United States for revenue in the public lands are dwelt upon, and it is proposed to anticipate the redemption of the United States Stock. The report does not recommend any immediate reduction of the tariff. It suggests a general revision and reduction, and leaves time for obtaining such information as may allow the change to be made wisely, considerably, and gradually.

The receipts of the late fiscal year are stated at 30,381,000 dollars. The balance in the Treasury, 12th of January, 1842, was 10,424,507 dollars, making a total of 40,818,287 dollars.

The expenditure of the fiscal year was 32,958,827 dollars. The balance in the Treasury is, therefore, 7,857,379 dollars.

A resolution was also carried inquiring the amount of the public debt of Texas. It was remarked by the introducer of the resolution, that if Texas was brought into the Union, it would be expedient to assume her debt.

Private letters from the best sources of information speak of the late differences between Mexico and the United States, as being mere bluster on both sides, and that there is little chance of any war growing out of it. As usual, the American papers are making the most of it, and all sorts of ridiculous rumours are being propagated.

In regard to the annexation of Texas, the accounts agree that there is no immediate chance of its success. There are now two bills before Congress providing for the annexation. One introduced by Mr. M'Duffie, the other offered by Mr. Benton.

The papers contain the message of Governor Ford, of the state of Illinois. It is confined almost entirely to the local affairs of the State, and contains very little encouragement to the holders of Illinois bonds, to hope that they will ever receive their due. The debt of the state is represented as still increasing.

The commercial news is unimportant. There is no alteration to notice in the rates of uncurrent money. There was rather more inquiry for cotton, and prices were a little firmer. The Stock Market was flat, and prices generally ranged a trifle lower than noted in previous quotations.

Exchange was firm, but with a limited demand.

Bills on England—110 to 110½; on Paris—Five per Cents., 21½ to 5 22½.

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT ELECT.

The *Nashville Union*, of the 30th December, gives the following report of a speech delivered by the President elect, Colonel Polk, on the previous day, on the occasion of his reception at Nashville. In reply to an address from Mr. Nicholson, he rose and spoke as follows:—

"I return to you, sir, and to my fellow-citizens whose organ you are, my unfeigned thanks for this manifestation of the popular regard and confidence, and for the congratulations which you have been pleased to express to me, upon the termination and result of the late political contest. I am fully sensible that those congratulations are not, and cannot be, personal to myself. It is the eminent success of our common principles which has spread such general joy over the land. The political struggle through which the country has just passed has been deeply exciting. Extraordinary causes have existed to make it so. It has terminated—it is now over—and I sincerely hope and believe has been decided by the sober and settled judgment of the American people.

"In exchanging mutual congratulations with each other upon the result of the late election, the Democratic party should remember, in calmly reviewing the contest, that the portion of fellow citizens who have differed with us in opinion have equal rights with ourselves; that minorities as well as majorities are entitled to the full and free exercise of their opinions and judgments; and that the rights of all, whether of minorities or majorities, as such are entitled to equal respect and regard.

"In rejoicing, therefore, over the success of the Democratic party, and of their principles, in the late election, it should be in no spirit of exultation over the defeat of our opponents; but it should be because, as we honestly believe, our principles and policy are better calculated than theirs to promote the true interests of the country.

"In the position in which I have been placed, by the voluntary and unsought suffrages of my fellow citizens, it will become my duty, as it will be my pleasure, faithfully and truly to represent, in the executive department of the Government, the principles and policy of the great party of the country who have elevated me to it; but, at the same time, it is proper that I should declare that I shall not regard myself as the representative of a party only, but of the whole people of the United States; and I trust that the future policy of the Government may be such as to secure the happiness and prosperity of all, without distinction of party."

THE WEST INDIES.

The Forth, West India mail steamer, has arrived with the following dates Tampico, Nov. 22; Vera Cruz, Dec. 1; Havannah, Dec. 10; Honduras, Nov. 21; Jamaica, Dec. 9; Carthage, Nov. 21; Demerara, Dec. 4; Trinidad, Nov. 6; Barbadoes, Nov. 9; Grenada, Nov. 18; St. Thomas, Nov. 15; La Guayra, Nov. 21; and Bermuda, Dec. 21.

We find by the Jamaica papers that the bill for providing means for securing the immigration of Hill Coolies was passed through committee on the 6th of December, and in it all necessary arrangements are said to be embodied. A fund of £50,000 had been appropriated for this object, and, in addition, authority is given to the Commissioners of Public Accounts to issue Exchequer-bills for the amount required, in case the Home Government should ship 3000 Coolies more than those expected.

The weather is described as having been extremely favourable for the crops. One very unfavourable piece of intelligence is given, viz., the occurrence of several instances of incendiarism.

In Barbadoes the rains had been abundant, and the weather was, at the departure of the mail, fine and fair. The planters were well pleased, and the weather was considered favourable.

The Forth brought 24 passengers, 117,000 dollars, £14,000 in gold, 2437 oz. of gold dust, and doubloons 10,414 oz., 43lb. of platinum, £600 value in pearls, 22 sermons of jalap, and 19 of cochineal.

MEXICO.

The West India steamer, the *Forth*, has brought important intelligence from Mexico. It confirms that previously received by way of New York, and published in the papers of that city. General Paredes had taken up his quarters at Larcos. He is described as about fifty years of age, of determined valour and very popular in all parts of the country, notwithstanding it is generally admitted he is not likely to hold the reins of Government for a long period. He has already lowered the import and export duties to 50 per cent in those States on the western coast which have pronounced in his favour. He has also taken off the contributions for the impending war with Texas—a measure that had given great satisfaction. General Paredes' army consists of about 2500 men, only one thousand of whom are old soldiers, the rest being raw recruits, many of whom enlisted as volunteers. He has only five pieces of cannon, and those are of small calibre. Santa Anna's troops, on the contrary, consist of about 10,000 men, principally infantry, with a small proportion of cavalry, and 30 pieces of ordnance. It is, however, much doubted whether the troops will remain firm to him, especially on going into action, although he had taken the precaution of making them swear allegiance. Otherwise, with this overwhelming force, it is likely that Santa Anna will succeed in defeating General Paredes. He marched with his troops towards Larcos just before the *Forth* sailed, and the report prevalent there was that General Paredes, hearing of his approach, had made a retrograde movement.

The state of Guanajuata had not declared for either party; it is a very important one in comparison to the others, and the fate of Santa Anna will much depend upon its declaration for or against the revolution.

This revolution may be considered as the most popular that has ever broken out in Mexico. The whole country, to a voice, is in favour of it, and in case of a failure on the part of Santa Anna, in his attack on General Paredes, an important change will take place.

THE BRAZILS.

Her Majesty's packet *Crane*, Lieut. Lewis, commander, has arrived at Falmouth direct with mails from Rio de Janeiro. Her dates are Pernambuco 11th and Bahia 16th October, and Rio the 20th of November. There is no news of particular import by this conveyance, matters remaining in *status quo* at the seat of Government. At Macao there had been some little outbreak of the ordinary Brazilian character, to check which a new President, Senor Lopez Goma, and a considerable number of troops, had been dispatched in the *Regeneracion* corvette, two brigantines, and two steamers, and it was calculated the province would be speedily pacified.

The English brig *John Dalton*, from Sidney, was driven on shore in a gale of wind on Cape Negro, 16th of November, and the mails, which were transmitted next day to Rio de Janeiro, are brought to England by the *Crane*. Her Majesty's ships *Frolic*, *Viper*, and *Spider* were ordered to proceed to render assistance, and by the latest accounts ere the *Crane* sailed, the vessel was expected to be got off with little damage. A lady passenger, reported to be called Stevens or Stevenson, had been unfortunately drowned.

The treaty with England closed on Nov. 11, without any particular demonstration or show of feeling; it was remarked that every facility had been afforded by the government for the clearance of goods, prior to the operation of the new tariff. The election returns were decidedly favourable to the government. Politically there appears to be nothing new.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

A POSTMASTER CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT.—On Wednesday *Robert Hobson*, 53, a person of respectable appearance, was tried before Mr. Justice Patteson for having, while in the employ of the General Post-office, feloniously embezzled the sum of one shilling and ten pence, the moneys of the Postmaster-General.—The Solicitor-General, Mr. Shepherd, and Mr. Adolphus conducted the prosecution; and Mr. Wilkins appeared for the prisoner. From the evidence of the witnesses it appeared that the prisoner had the management of the branch post-office at Walthamstow, in Essex, and on the 14th December a woman, named Carter, took a letter, addressed to her husband, a seaman, whom she at that time believed to be at Calcutta, to which place the letter was addressed, to the prisoner, and paid him one shilling postage. Shortly afterwards the prisoner sent to her to say that the postage was one shilling and tenpence, and she gave the additional sum required. The letter never came to hand at the General Post-office, and, in consequence of some suspicion that was created, Mr. Southworth, who holds the office of one of the presidents in that establishment, went down to Walthamstow, accompanied by Peake, an officer, in the employ of the Post-office, and he questioned the prisoner upon the subject of the letter, when he gave several contradictory statements respecting it, but asserted that he had sent it in the ordinary course to the General Post-office. While, however, the prisoner was conversing with Mr. Southworth, the officer Peake, who had in the meantime searched the house, found the identical letter in one of the prisoner's private drawers.—Mr. Wilkins made an address on behalf of the prisoner, attributing the proceeding of the prisoner to forgetfulness, and urged that there was no distinct evidence of any intention on his part to defraud the Post-office authorities.—Several highly respectable witnesses were called, who gave the prisoner an excellent character.—The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," coupled with a strong recommendation to mercy.—Mr. Justice Patteson sentenced the prisoner to be kept to hard labour for twelve months.

CONVICTION FOR COINING.—*John Green*, 36, and *Anne Green*, his daughter, aged 9, were indicted for feloniously making counterfeit coin. In a second count the prisoners were charged with feloniously colouring counterfeit coin to resemble silver. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Bodkin appeared on behalf of the authorities of the Mint. Some particulars of the case recently appeared under our police head. It will be recollected that Sergeant Brennan, of the G division of police, went to the apartment occupied by the male prisoner and his family, and as he was about to enter, the little girl came out and clung to him, at the same time calling out "Father, father." The sergeant disengaged himself from her, and ran up stairs, when he was met by the man, who rushed upon him and struck him. A severe struggle took place, but eventually another constable came to his assistance, and the man was secured. During the struggle the little girl made herself very active in attempting to convey away counterfeit coin, and the constables took a considerable quantity away from her. The officers eventually found 61 counterfeit half-crowns, and 40 counterfeit shillings, the whole of which turned out to be made of some soft white metal coloured with silver by the electrolytic process. In the prisoner's room there were also found two electro-galvanic batteries, and a number of bottles and vessels containing liquids for the purposes of the plating process.—The man, in his defence, asserted that the articles found in his room had been placed there for the purpose of entrapping him, and that he was innocent.—The jury found the male prisoner guilty, and acquitted the little girl.—The prisoner begged for mercy on account of his having a wife and a young family.—Mr. Justice Patteson told the prisoner that he should have thought of his family before he committed the offence. The Court felt called upon to pass a severe sentence, which was that the prisoner be transported for fifteen years.

FORGERY.—*Benjamin Lamburne*, 44, was indicted for feloniously forging and uttering a bill of exchange for £150, bearing two forged endorsements, with intent to defraud the Directors of the Commercial and General Insurance Company and Loan Society.—Mr. Ballantine conducted the prosecution.—The evidence proved that the prisoner applied two years ago to the Commercial and General Insurance Company and Loan Society for a loan of £300, to be repaid by instalments. It was granted on condition of his insuring his life in the office, and giving his bill at three months' date for the sum of £150, with solvent endorser's names upon it. Two friends of his, named Samuel Long and Joseph Donovan, accommodated him with their names. The prisoner, when the bill became due, paid the instalment agreed on. He gave another bill for £275, with the same endorsements. In like manner he paid several subsequent instalments, until the debt was reduced to £150, when, in consequence of some dispute between him and the endorser (Long and Donovan), they gave notice to the office that they would not be accountable for the prisoner's debt, and that they had not endorsed his bills for some time. The prisoner himself also called, and begged of the directors to receive another bill, with a different endorsement; and he admitted in conversation with Mr. F. Lawrence, who acted for the Society, that he had himself written all the names (four or five) on the bill, except one. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty. The prisoner was recommended to mercy by the prosecutors, and the Court sentenced him to be imprisoned for two years.

POLICE.

TOO LOVING BY HALF.—At Mr. Bowdler's street, on Monday, *Ann Nunn*, a well-dressed woman, between thirty and forty years of age, possessing no very remarkable attractions, was charged with having importuned William Simmons, tailor, of No. 200, Oxford-street, with so much pertinacity as to create a serious annoyance to himself, and an obstruction to his business. From the statement of Mr. Simmons it appeared that the female laboured under the delusion that he intended, or else that he ought, to marry her. She constantly presented herself at his shop, cooing him, in the most pathetic way, to accede to her matrimonial proposals. It was in vain that the police to take her away. She was no sooner free from the appeal than she ran back and repeated her unwelcome solicitations.—Mr. Maltby asked the complainant if anything had occurred to sanction the defendant's delusion?—Mr. Simmons declared that no promise on his part, nor any familiarity, could warrant the female's conduct. The only way in which he could account for the infatuation was by supposing that the defendant was not quite right in her head.—The defendant, who appeared to be quite absorbed by her attachment, said, in a low voice, that the complainant would not call upon her, so she was obliged to call upon him. He had promised to marry her a twelvemonth ago, and she was resolved that he should not dally with her any longer.—Mr. Maltby: Unless you promise to keep away from the complainant's shop, I must order you to find bail.—Defendant: I'll keep away—not unless he promises to come and see me.—The complainant declared there was no truth in the assertion that he had promised the defendant marriage.—Mr. Maltby thought the father of the defendant ought to be required to restrain his daughter's behaviour, and he should, therefore, advise the constable to take her to her home and leave her in the charge of her friends.—Police-constable English took the defendant to her father's, a tailor, in Windmill-street, but very soon afterwards returned with

both daughter and father, in consequence of the daughter having, as soon as relieved from custody, made her way once more to the complainant's shop in Oxford-street.—The father said he was quite at a loss to account for the infatuation of his daughter. She was sane on all points, except as far as regarded her matrimonial passion for the complainant. The origin of his daughter's attachment was from the circumstance of her having worked as waistcoat-maker in the same shop where the complainant was formerly employed. After some expostulation the defendant gave a half promise that she would not go to the shop in Oxford-street again. The complainant quitted the court. The defendant, on being released, was observed to break away from her friends and to follow the complainant.

THE ATROCIOUS OFFENCE OF GOUGING.—At Queen-square, on Monday, *William Woodham*, a plumber and glazier, living in Ellis-street, Chelsea, was charged with a ferocious assault upon Benjamin Williams, a gentleman's servant. It appeared from the statement of the complainant, whose left eye was in a dreadfully inflamed state, that on Friday last he went into the Woodman, in Doyley-street, Chelsea, with two friends, and while they were drinking some gin and water defendant came up, and, without the slightest provocation, nudged complainant's elbow intentionally, and spilt some of the liquor. Complainant took no notice of this the first time, but on its being repeated immediately afterwards, endeavoured to fling the remainder of the gin and water at defendant. Defendant then attacked him with great fury, and complainant defended himself as well as he could. They fell on the ground, when defendant, who was uppermost, held complainant's head down, and forcing his thumb into his eye, turned it right out on his cheek. Complainant cried out for assistance, and his friends took defendant off him. Defendant, in reply to the charge, said he had no animosity to the complainant. He (the defendant) had been drinking very freely, and being under the influence of liquor, might have pushed up against complainant's elbow by accident, as he left the house. He complained that he had been much hurt in the affray, and said that complainant must have received the injury of which he had spoken by accident. Mr. Burrell said he should fine the defendant £5, or commit him for two months, in addition to which he should call upon him to find good bail for the next twelve months. The penalty was paid.

BURGLARY AT BLACKWALL.—At the Thames Police-office, on Monday, two men named *James Francis*, a hatter, and *Thomas Salt*, a labourer, were charged with committing a burglary in a private dwelling-house belonging to Messrs. Brendel and Roberts, proprietors of the Artichoke Tavern and White Bait House, at Blackwall, and stealing property to a considerable amount therefrom.—Inspector Rutt said he had no doubt the thieves obtained an entrance into the house by means of one of the skeleton keys found on the prisoners. He also found upon Francis a box of lucifer matches, a comb, and a short pipe.—Mr. Broderip asked the prosecutors if they had found their property?—Mr. Brendel said the only thing missing was an old silver watch.—The prisoners had nothing at all to say in their defence, but Francis was very anxious for the restoration of the comb taken from him, to comb his hair.—Inspector Rutt said it was a new tortoiseshell comb, and the produce, he believed, of another robbery.—Mr. Broderip said the inspector must not part with it, and committed the prisoners for trial.

THE ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO MURDER THE DUKE OF NORMANDY.—At Hammersmith Police-office, on Monday, the self-styled Duke of Normandy, attended by a considerable number of persons connected with his establishment at Fulham, made a statement relative to the attack alleged to have been made upon his person, as detailed in our paper last week. The "Duke's" narrative of the eventful history was to the same effect as the particulars which have already appeared; and Mr. Tucker, and others of his "household," went into details in confirmation. In addition, written declarations were put in from two Frenchmen, named Compellier and De Lotz, to the effect that they had overheard some foreigners say that the Duke would be done for before the 10th of January; but the language of Compellier was so extraordinary as to raise doubts of his sanity. On being pressed by the magistrate, Mr. Clive, the "Duke" said he had no doubt that the person who fired at him was connected with his political enemies elsewhere (meaning, of course, in France), and that his intention was, both to kill him, and blow up the building in which he was at work at the same time, inasmuch as the great light showed that the instrument which exploded, whatever it might have been, was charged with a quantity of combustible matter, different from mere powder. The upshot of the affair was that the magistrate said he must have Compellier before him, and the police were ordered to continue their investigation.

ANOTHER GENTLE SWINDLER.—At Clerkenwell Police-office on Tuesday, *Ann Williams*, a genteel looking young woman, was charged with stealing a piano forte, value £25, of Messrs. Broadwood's manufacture, the property of Mr. Ludwig Ganter, a teacher of languages, residing at No. 1, Upper Gower-street; also with robbing ready furnished lodgings, and obtaining goods on false pretences.—It appeared from the evidence that the prisoner was for some time in the employ of Mr. Ganter, and left about four months ago. She came to Mr. Ganter's about a month after, bringing with her a carman, and said that Messrs. Broadwood's foreman had sent for the piano forte, which Mr. Ganter had on hire, at the same time presenting the foreman's card; the piano was given up by the landlady, and the prisoner on the same day pawned it for £10 in the Dover-road, and sold the duplicate of it to a salesman for a few pounds profit, saying she was going to America. Several of the prisoner's victims were in court, from whose statement it appeared she has been carrying on a system of fraud for a considerable time.—She was fully committed for trial.

STRANGE SCENE ARISING FROM A FORCIBLE EJECTMENT.—On Monday, Wilmington-square and its neighbourhood were for some hours the scene of great excitement, in consequence of the ejection of a Jewish family, who by their screams and shouts attracted a mob of more than 1000 persons. Arising out of this affair, Mr. Solomon Lyons, a broker, residing in Gray's-inn-lane, a Jew, was charged at Clerkenwell Police Office with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty, and with exciting a mob against the police. It appeared from the evidence, that a Jewish family named Abrahams, have lived for a considerable time in Tysoe-street, Wilmington-square, and falling into large arrears of rent, they were served with the usual notice to quit, which expired on Christmas-eve last, but the landlord, from motives of humanity, allowed the family to occupy the house until it was let. Abrahams gave a written promise that he would forthwith leave the house when called upon. The house having been let, they were that morning called upon to evacuate, but refused, and were ejected by force. The whole family, ten in number, and amongst them several small children, assembled in front of the door, set up a dismal wailing, and an immense mob was forthwith attracted, whose sympathies were at once enlisted in favour of the helpless little ones. The landlord's men were the subjects of execration. The prisoner, who chanced to be passing, interfered on behalf of the ejected family, and applied language of a very offensive nature towards the constables; who, seeing that the encouragement of a respectable-looking man was likely to inflame still more the passions of the mob, took him into custody. The prisoner denied that he had used bad language towards the police, but admitted that he was much interested on behalf of his Jewish brethren, and that he knew nothing of the circumstances of the case, but accidentally mingled in the mob. Mr. Combe said, if the police had been injured, he would undoubtedly have sent him to the House of Correction for a month without a fine; he would, however, fine him 10s., or ten days imprisonment. The fine was paid at once.

CHARGE OF LORD HUNTINGTOWER AGAINST MR. DUCKETT.—At Southwark Police-office, on Wednesday, Mr. J. P. Duckett attended to answer a charge made by Lord Huntingtower of using threatening language against him, and also for obtaining possession of a bill from his lordship by threats of violence if he refused to deliver it up. A solicitor attended for Lord Huntingtower, and Mr. D. Keane, the barrister, on behalf of the defendant. Lord Huntingtower's statement was to the effect, that, having business with a person in the Queen's Prison, on Saturday evening last, while he was in conversation with him, the defendant came up and asked him some questions relative to a Captain White, and as to whether he knew if he had his acceptance? Lord Huntingtower replying that the bill was in his possession, the defendant then said that he was robbed of it, applied the epithet of "scoundrels" to him and Captain White, and used other language of an irritating description, and finally threatened to break every bone in Lord Huntingtower's body if he did not give him up his acceptance. The latter individual exclaimed against such a summary proceeding being adopted, and said that he had given a consideration for the bill, and that as it was his property he should not part with it. The defendant upon this became very much excited, clenched his fists, and seemed to be preparing to make use of them, when his lordship, according to his own account, being apprehensive that from the threats used he would have been assaulted, resigned possession of the bill to the defendant. Lord Huntingtower added that the bill was for £47 odd, and that he had it from Capt. White, and a consideration was given—that it was accepted by the defendant, and endorsed by Capt. White.—In answer to a question, the complainant said that nothing but the dread of being assaulted on the occasion by the defendant, who was a much more powerful man than he was, induced him to give up the possession of the bill.—At this stage of the inquiry the defendant's counsel observed that a document was in the possession of Lord Huntingtower which would at once explain the whole transaction, and show that there were not the slightest grounds for the imputed charge against his client, that of obtaining possession of the bill by threats of personal violence.—After some hesitation on the part of the complainant's solicitor, the document was handed to the magistrate, who, on perusing it, said it did very materially alter the complexion of the case; and then proceeded to question Lord Huntingtower, who admitted that he had written it on the occasion of the meeting between him and the defendant in the Queen's Prison. It was a written indemnification to him, on his delivering up the bill to the defendant, from all proceedings for its subsequent recovery, by action or otherwise. It was signed by the defendant.—Mr. Cottingham asked Lord Huntingtower if he got the document in question subsequently to the alleged threats of violence used towards him, and he admitted such to be the fact; "but still," added he, "I have reason to apprehend that the defendant will commit an assault upon me, if not restrained by the law."—Mr. Cottingham said it was extraordinary that Lord Huntingtower should now come forward and complain of being apprehensive of personal violence from the defendant, after having received the document just produced immediately after he had given up the possession of the bill. Had his lordship been deprived of the bill by threats, as he asserted, he ought to have proceeded to the nearest police-court, and there complained of the circumstance; instead of which, by his own avowal, he accepts of a

written undertaking from the defendant to bear him harmless from any future proceedings for its recovery, on his delivering it up to him.—Mr. Keane then entered into the defence of his client, by describing that the defendant had, on a recent occasion, received a letter, stating that the bill in question had improperly come into the possession of Lieutenant, not Captain White, and as it was his (defendant's) acceptance, he went up to Lord Huntingtower to make inquiries on the subject. That the latter individual, admitting he had it, when it was demanded refused to give it up, but ultimately resigned the possession of it, on defendant giving him the document produced this day in court. It was not true that threats of the nature adduced had been made use of by the defendant, who was perfectly satisfied to have got back his acceptance; and instead of having any disposition to come in contact with Lord Huntingtower, his wish was to avoid him in future, and, therefore, had not the slightest intention of threatening or assaulting him—he need not be afraid.—Lord Huntingtower: The bill, I still maintain, was extorted from me by threats. I do go in bodily fear.—Mr. Cottingham said that, taking the whole of the circumstances into consideration, instead of making the defendant find sureties to keep the peace, he should merely call upon him to enter into his own recognizances, in the sum of £100, not to use any language of a threatening nature towards Lord Huntingtower. Mr. Duckett, having entered into his own recognizances, was immediately discharged.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO EXTORT MONEY FROM BANKERS.—At the Mansion-house, on Wednesday, a man, whose name appeared on the prisoner's list as *Sinops Kent*, was brought before the Lord Mayor upon self accusation of a very serious offence. Mr. Bush, of the firm of Bush and Mullins, solicitors to the Committee of Bankers for Protection against Forgeries and Frauds, attended for the prosecution. The prisoner, who was undefended, seemed to be in a state of extreme dejection. Robert Stirling, policeman No. 157, of the A division of Metropolitan Police, stated that at twelve o'clock on Tuesday night at Charing-cross, the prisoner, after looking at him for a moment, said, "I can bear it no longer, you must take me in charge." Witness asked him upon what grounds, to which he replied, "for sending a threatening letter to Messrs. Prescott and Grote, the bankers." The prisoner then put into his hands, a seal, with which he said he had impressed the wax on the letter he had sent to the bankers. Witness took the prisoner into custody. The prisoner likewise said, on being taken into custody, that it was to save other parties he had done it. Mr. Bush stated that the following extraordinary letter had been received by a gentleman in the establishment of Messrs. Prescott and Co. The post-mark was eight at night, 6th January, 1845:—

"December 6,

"Messrs.—A plan has been arranged for the purpose of firing your bank, and which you cannot prevent, however strict you may keep watch, unless you consent to pay the party one hundred pounds within one month, namely, fifty pounds immediately, which you must enclose in a letter directed to Mr. John Wright, and send without fail to-morrow morning by twelve o'clock, to the Angel Inn, Islington, to be left there until called for. Unless this is complied with, we betide you. It will be folly of you attempting to discover the parties; for if you do so, you will be placing your lives at stake. Avert the fate which now hangs over you. I say, be warned, and comply with the demands now made. Yours, &c.

"Messrs. Prescott and Grote."

Mr. Bush also produced the seal which the prisoner had given up, and upon which was engraved a coat of arms. It was a very remarkable seal.—Mr. George Taylor, principal clerk in the banking-house of Messrs. Prescott and Grote, stated that he had received the letter read by Mr. Bush, at half-past nine o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, by the first post, and he had put a mark upon it and delivered it to the partners.—Mr. Bush said that there was an act framed to meet this particular sort of offence of which the prisoner stood accused; and he had been directed by the committee of bankers to bring the case before his lordship to be treated according to law. It was, he added, the firm intention of the committee of bankers to prosecute in every instance in which a threatening letter was received which was written for the purpose of extorting money. It would be necessary, in order that opportunities might be afforded for ascertaining something about the prisoner's state of mind, that the case should be remanded.—Previously to the appearance of Mr. Bush, who had been but just informed of the apprehension of the prisoner, Kent was put to the bar, and the Lord Mayor showed a desire to know something about a person who had acted in so very strange a manner, and asked him where he resided.—The prisoner: I have no fixed residence.—The Lord Mayor: Are you connected with the law?—The prisoner: I have copied for a lawyer, but I am not one.—The surgeon of the Compter is to examine the prisoner before his next examination.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD, Jan. 4.—Hilary or Lent Term will commence on Tuesday, the 14th inst. The Queen has been pleased to grant unto the Rev. Frederick Anson, of All Souls College, the place and dignity of a Canon of her Majesty's Free Chapel of Windsor. The following members of this university have been ordained by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough:—Deacon: T. W. Werc, of St. Mary Hall. Priests: Rev. C. J. S. Bowles, of Wadham College; Rev. E. Slead, of Pembroke College; Rev. A. Trower, of Lincoln College. By the Lord Bishop of Lichfield:—Deacons: A. E. Henry Armitage, of Trinity College; F. H. Deane, of Magdalen College; C. H. Mainwaring, of Oriel College; F. T. Pearson, of Queen's College; T. H. B. Baker, of Christ Church; H. Hughes, of St. Mary Hall. Priest: Rev. A. Mozley, of Oriel College. By the Lord Bishop of Chester:—Deacons: V. G. Driffield, of Brasenose College; J. Roys, of Brasenose College; R. W. Bush, of Worcester College; W. F. Handcock, of St. Mary Hall; T. P. Nunn, of St. Mary Hall; E. W. Appleyard, of Magdalen Hall; C. Cutcliffe, of Magdalen Hall. Priests: Rev. T. Green, of Brasenose College; Rev. J. Thomas, of Trinity College. By the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol:—Deacons: L. Dobinson, of Wadham College; J. M. Bartlett, of Worcester College; T. C. Gibbs, of Trinity College; R. Gregory, of Corpus Christi College.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE LATE SIR WILLIAM NOTT.

The lamented death of Major-General Sir William Nott, which took place at Carmarthen on New Year's Day, was announced in our late impression last week. In early life William Nott left Neath, and accompanied his father to Carmarthen, where the latter lived respected many years. He was proprietor of the Ivy Bush Hotel, and an extensive mail contractor. The family descended maternally from the Harveys, of Norfolk.

He entered the service of the East India Company in 1808, and in the earliest portion of his career gave promise of those high qualities which afterwards distinguished him in life.

At the conclusion of the war in Afghanistan, General Nott found that his health had become so impaired by the climate as to render it necessary for him to return immediately to England. At the Cape of Good Hope, on the homeward voyage, the gallant general was first attacked by that illness which has terminated so fatally.

On arriving at Carmarthen, the General repurchased Job's Well, and immediately caused the house to be taken down, having it in contemplation to erect a splendid villa in the Elizabethan style of architecture. The work has been for some time in progress; but it was ordained that the General should not live to see its completion. The veteran's constitution, however, was not easily overcome; and when at last nature became exhausted, he expired without a groan, and, as it appeared, as if he was going to sleep.

The General has left four children by his first wife, the daughter of Henry Scombe, Esq., an attorney in the Supreme Court of Calcutta, viz., the Rev. William Nott, Miss Nott, R. M. Nott, Esq., and Miss Charlotte Nott, all of whom, together with Lady Nott, were present at the last awful moment when Sir William was called to meet his Maker. His brother, George Nott, Esq., was sent for, but did not arrive until after the General's death.

The affection of Lady Nott (who is scarcely more than 20 years of age) was unbounded, and her attention to him during his last illness proportionately self-sacrificing. On the fatal tidings of the gallant general's death being communicated to her ladyship, she was seized with strong hysterics, and it was feared that some serious illness would result to her ladyship.

The funeral of the late gallant general, which was a public one, and which, in addition to his family and private friends, was attended by the nobility and surrounding gentry, took place on Monday with great splendour, at Carmarthen, the whole corporation also joining in the sad and solemn ceremony. The remains of the gallant general were interred in the family vault of his ancestors beneath the Old Church, amidst the deep sympathy and regret of hundreds of his fellow-townsmen.

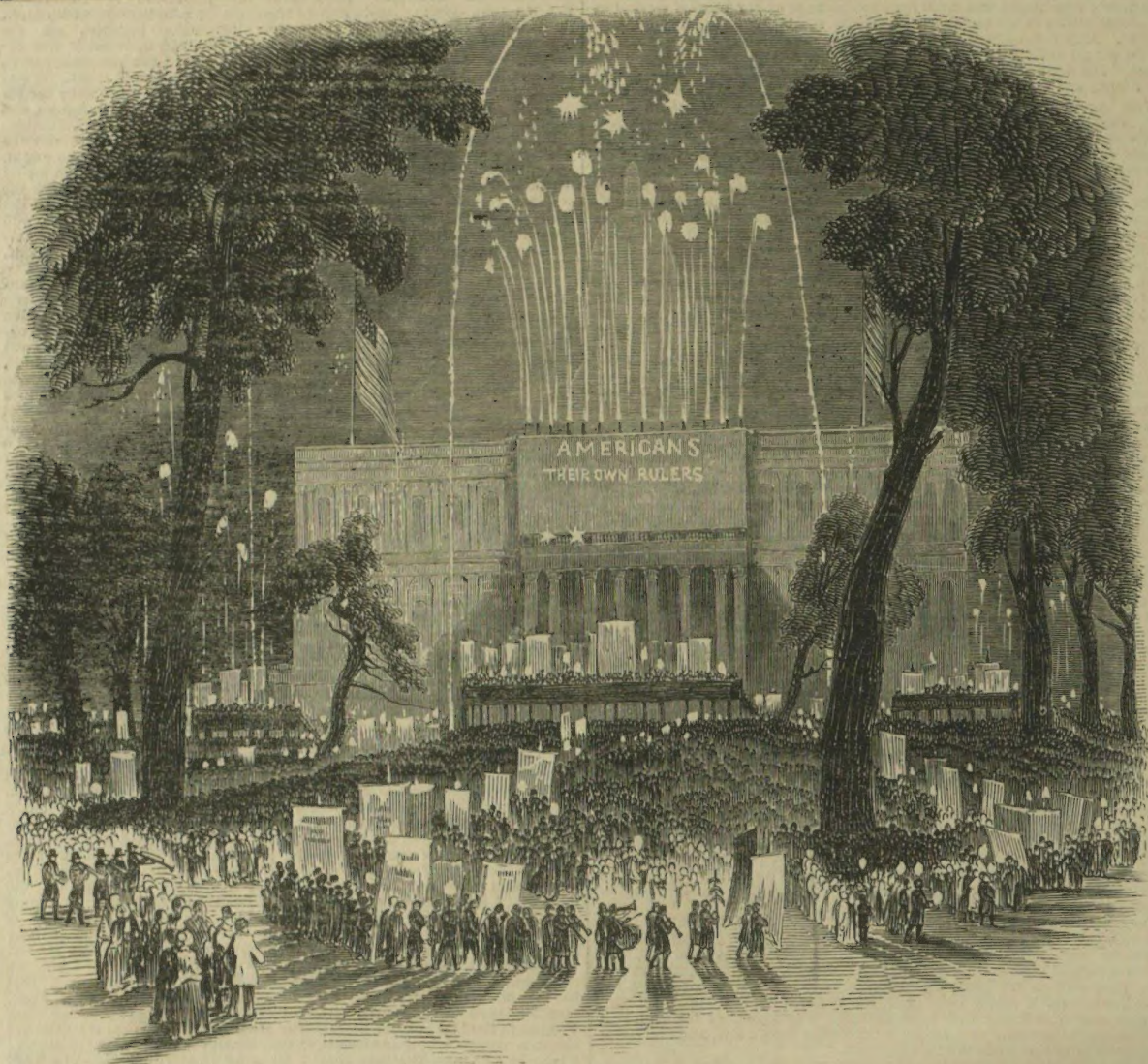
Sir Thomas Willshire, K.C.B., the commandant of Chatham garrison, received instructions last week to hold in readiness for embarkation, on board the freight ship *Anne*, for New South Wales, the following detachments of officers and men—51st Regiment—22 men; 58th—Lieutenant-Colonel Wynyard, Captain Leigh, Lieutenant Petley, Ensign Wynyard, Assistant-Surgeon Philson, and 196 men; 96th—Assistant-Surgeon M'Andrew, and 18 men; 99th—43 men: Total—6 officers, and 281 men.

THE BREVET.—It is now said in well-informed quarters that, notwithstanding the strong expectations of a Brevet, those who indulged hopes of being included within its range are doomed to disappointment. Thereafter all, be no Brevet.

RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY.—The Horse Guards and parks present daily a more than usual display of enlisted cockades, both for the cavalry and infantry, as also for the service of the Hon. East India Company.

REMOVED INCREASE OF THE NAVY.—The *Globe* has a report that a very large addition to the navy estimates will be proposed in the coming session. It says, "We hear from a quarter likely to be well informed, that appearances in the dockyard and naval arsenal of Chatham, and elsewhere, reveal with suspicion; and that these are the real causes of the present purpose of the Government to increase our naval means of national defence."

APPOINTMENTS.—Lieutenants: S. Robertson, to the Comus; W. H. Stewart, to the Superb; W. K. Hall, to the *Vindictive*. Mate: William Swinburn, to the *Amazon*. Assistant Surgeon: Cecil Crandell, to the *San Josef*.



GREAT "NATIVE" MEETING IN THE PARK, AT NEW YORK.

GREAT NATIVE MEETING AT NEW YORK.

This enthusiastic demonstration, termed, in the New York journals, "the Great Mass Monster Meeting of the Natives," took place in the Park, at New York, on the night of Monday, October 22. It is necessary to be thus explicit as to the designation of the meeting, since the high state of parties, and the political excitement at New York, at the present moment, call forth demonstrations of every shade of opinion; and "the madness of many" has taken the most extraordinary method. The "Natives" are, for instance, violently opposed, in the assertion of what they consider their rights, both to the Whig and Democratic parties; and, to quote the *New York Herald*, "they declare their unalterable purpose to be to go on their own hook—to make no compromises or coalition with any party; but they are ready to absorb within their capacious bosom the rank and file of both the old parties. According to all appearances, the whole Native congressional, senatorial, and assembly tickets will be carried by overwhelming majorities; but how Polk or Clay will come out in this city, is a greater mystery than ever."

This Great Meeting, the object of which was to respond to the nominations on their county ticket, had been postponed, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, on the previous Friday. On Monday, the preparations were on the most imposing scale. The city flag was hoisted all day—three immense platform towers erected in the Park—fireworks on the most magnificent scale were erected, and in all Wards the enthusiasm and excitement

amongst the "Natives," were indescribable. About six o'clock, there probably were three thousand persons on the spot, many of them being females. On the balcony of the City Hall, a large Drummond light shed its dazzling radiance on the multitude, lighting up the crowds, the trees, and the Fountain, making the whole scene almost as clear as noon-day.

About half-past seven o'clock the meeting was organised by the appointment of a chairman, General Lloyd, who said, on taking the chair, that it was a great source of honour to him that he stood in such an honourable position before such a large concourse of American citizens. When he came there he expected to see a few of the citizens of New York, but behold, they had got the Union with them in spirit and purpose. (Tremendous cheers.)

About twenty Vice Presidents were then nominated amid loud shouts and a cry of "there ain't enough of them."

Mr. Richard Warren then reported on the part of the nominating committee, that they had selected George Folsom as the senatorial candidate. Mr. Folsom's letter of acceptance was then read.

Here the invited guests from Philadelphia passed the principal stand in three carriages, escorted by Alderman Cozzens, Major Prall, and other distinguished "Natives." They were greeted with three loud cheers.

Mr. Warren then proceeded to read the Report and Address of the Senatorial and Assembly Nominating Committees of the American Republican party

for the city and district. It is a most enthusiastic document, setting forth the great principles of the party. A resolution was then passed in favour of the several nominees; and Mr. Baller, of Philadelphia, addressed the meeting at great length.

The public singer of the "Native" party, Thomas De La Ree, was then called upon, and sang three songs in succession, which strongly denounced the Irish.

Mr. Folsom, the candidate for Senator, then addressed the mass, and concluded with this emphatic declaration:—This movement has commenced in consequence of the outrage committed upon us by your legislature, and it is incumbent upon us to act in the spirit of that constitution, founded by the wisdom of our fathers and cherished by the patriotism of successive generations. (Loud cheers.) We shall rescue it from the hands and ruthless grasp in which it has fallen, and hand it down to posterity—I would proceed with my remarks, but I will not detain you at this hour of the night any longer, but I shall only urge the importance of carrying out the principles we profess, and we shall go forth to the battle field with the Bible in one hand, and our country in the other, and vindicate the rights and liberties of American citizens. (Immense cheering, which lasted for some time.)

At the conclusion of this speech Mayor Harper, who was recognised on the balcony of the City Hall, was loudly cheered, when two blue lights were ignited at either end, and in very magnificent fireworks from the balcony were displayed the words—"Americans their own rulers"—after which the different Wards mustered at the places appointed, and then re-entered the Park, which they crossed and filed off in procession.

While these animating proceedings were going on upon the principal stand, addresses were delivered from the stand in the rear, by Mr. Oakley, one of the candidates for Assembly, and Mr. Woodruff, one of the candidates for Congress.

Another meeting was also organised near the Park-gate, opposite Tammany Hall, which (we regret to state) was interrupted by showers of stones, shells, and other missiles, which fell thickly upon the stand, and wounded several individuals—none, however, very seriously. Addresses were delivered from this stand by Messrs. Corman and Booes, of Philadelphia, when the meeting was dissolved and joined that collected around the principal stand.

A procession was formed, and moved by Park-row up Broadway through the principal streets of this city. The "Empire Club," which had assembled at Tammany Hall, shouted loud, long, and vociferously "three cheers for Polk and Dallas" as the "Natives" filed off from the Park, and a "row" was expected, but fortunately no breach of the peace took place. After much enthusiastic cheering for Polk and Dallas, the meeting at Tammany Hall separated.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF AULD SCOTLAND.

THE BIRKS OF ABERFELDY.

Of all the varied scenes of Scottish landscape, none are more worthy of a visit by the tourist than the celebrated waterfalls of Moness, in the neighbourhood of the village of Aberfeldy, in Strath Tay. They occur in a deep and narrow chasm behind Moness House. Pennant, the celebrated tourist, calls them "an epitome of every thing that can be admired in the curiosity of waterfalls." "They consist," says Anderson, in his "Guide to the Highlands," "of a succession of falls, comprising a perpendicular height of not less than a hundred feet, and occupying in length a space of more than the



THE BIRKS OF ABERFELDY.

like number of yards. A prolonged sheet of descending water, alternately perpendicular and slanting, is before us. From the edge of this lengthened cataract rise abrupt rocky acclivities, covered with moss and fern, whence shoot up tall slender pines and elms. These partially veil two lichen-clad mural cliffs—converging towards the uppermost fall, above which they rear two high vertical lines; on the top of these cliffs, are serried groves of pine and birch, while a row of airy birches move on the slanting summit of the bank which closes in the rocky gap. The last and highest cascade is a perpendicular fall of about fifty feet, but possessing no particular interest." Burns commemorated this fine place in his well-known song of the "Birks of Aberfeldy."

GREAT WHIG MASS CONVENTION, AT NEW YORK.

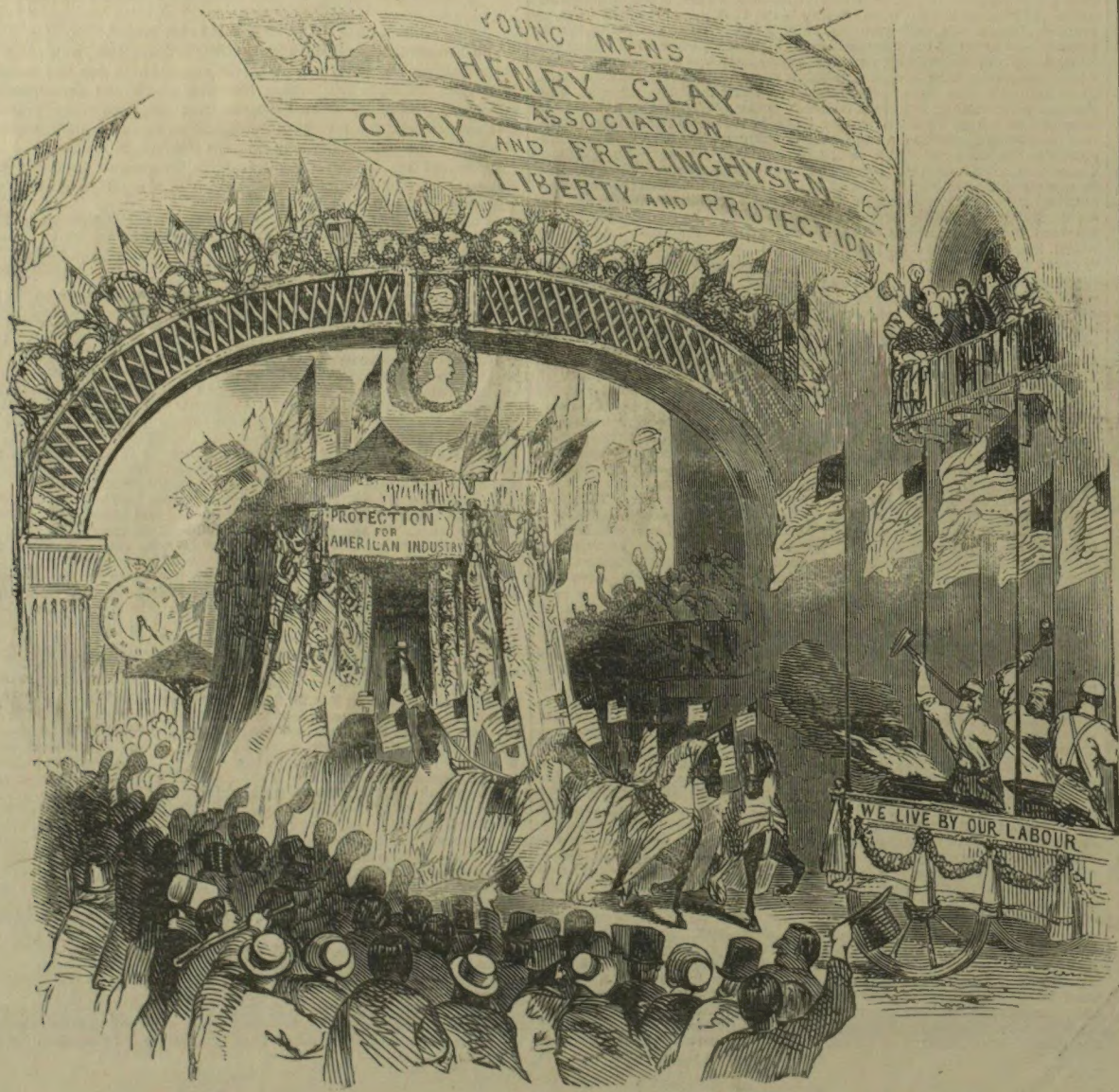
Our third illustration of the state of American political feeling is sketched from the general mass assemblage of the "Young Whigs," from New York, and the surrounding States, which took place on Oct. 24, in the city, under one of the most smiling skies that ever blest the lower world on any side of the Atlantic. The moonshine during the night meetings was also superb.

This may be said to be the first organization of that portion of the Whig party who are attached to Daniel Webster.

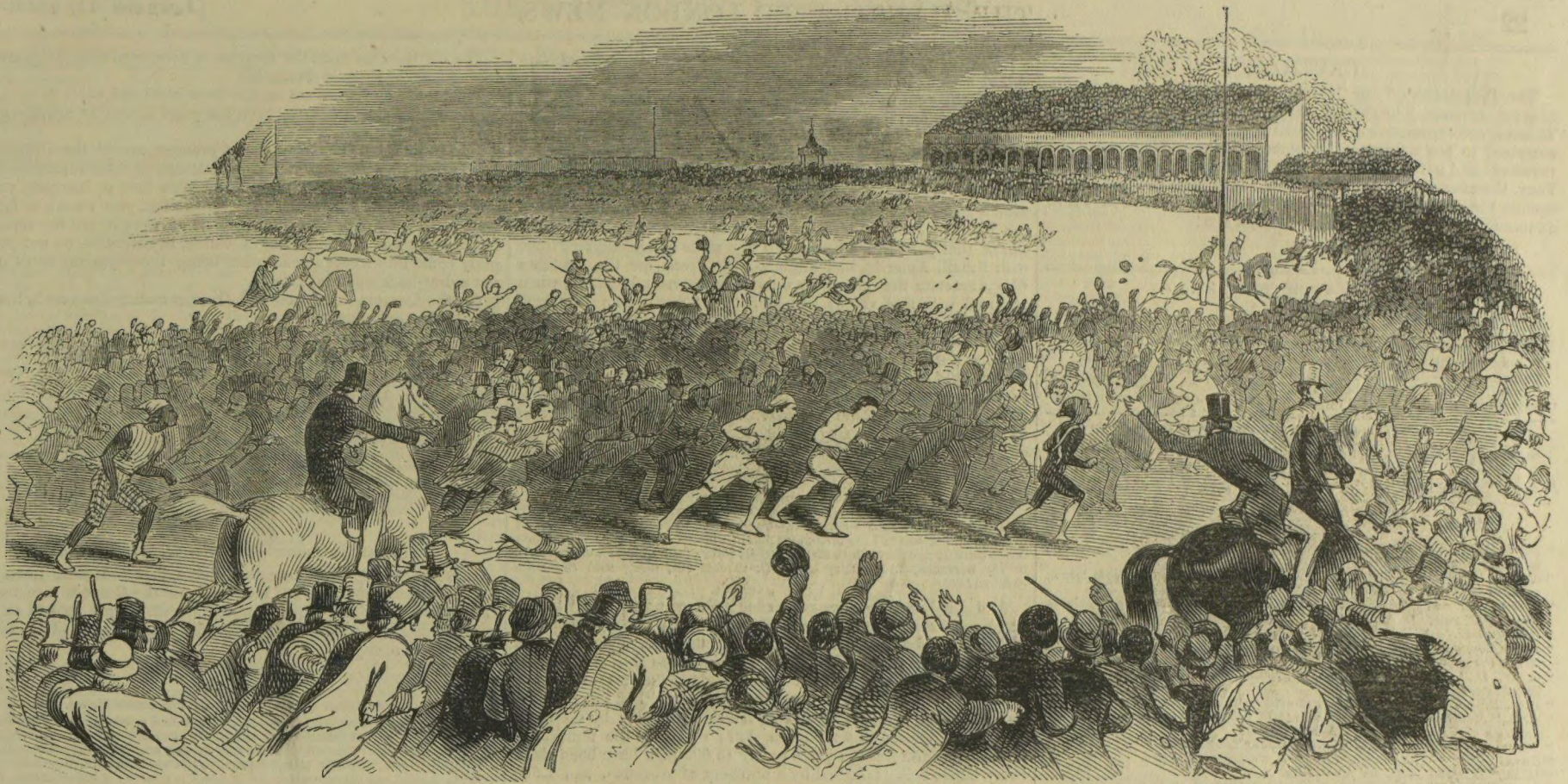
The excitement commenced at sunrise, when the national ensigns were hoisted from the different Whig head quarters, and a salute of one hundred guns was fired at six o'clock. At about ten o'clock, the streets were jammed up with delegations, carriages, carts, cabs, omnibuses, and crowds of spectators, all flocking to the grand centre point, where the procession was to form. At ten o'clock, Grand Marshal Augustus S. Foster, Esq., escorted by a large cortege, all well mounted, rode up and halted at the Bowling Green, and took their places in front of the procession.

The cavalcade wore Clay badges, and at the head of the procession, they moved along up Broadway, followed by the first division of the "Young Men's Clay Association," preceded by the "Young Guard," who carried a very superb white silk banner, on which was represented a full length portrait of Mr. Clay, with the inscription, "Justice to Harry of the West." This banner was presented to them by the ladies. We have not space to detail the procession or its banners: on one of them were inscribed—"Here lie the remains of the lamented Lawrence; remember his last words, 'Don't give up the ship.'" Elsewhere was a placard with the words—"We bid foreigners welcome to partake of our pudding, but not to cook it." The Whigs of the Western Hotel were followed by an open carriage drawn by six horses, which contained invited guests and revolutionary heroes. Some thirty carriages followed, each drawn by four horses, and were decorated with flags and banners—the horses being mostly covered over with the American flag, in the shape of body cloths, which gave them a very imposing appearance. A large concourse on foot followed four abreast, consisting of the mass of the Whig associations. Their banners bore the inscription "Protection to American Industry," and a car followed on which was a printing press, apparently in working operation.

The particulars of the Delegations and Clubs, and the inscriptions on their banners, occupy several columns of the *New York Herald*. We must, indeed, pass on to the scene of our Engraving—Gothic Hall, a splendid arch, made of timber work, was thrown across Broadway, from which were suspended several wreaths and festoons of flowers, with a well-executed profile of Mr. Clay. The shouting here was immense and prolonged. Broadway, near Canal-street, was completely jammed up during the time the procession was passing. After passing along by the Astor House, and wheeling by Park-row, the Grand Marshal, accompanied by his staff and a band, pulled up, and the whole passed in review, the band playing several lively and appropriate airs; when, after considerable delay, the Park was filled up, and the



GREAT "WHIG" MASS MEETING AT NEW YORK.—THE PROCESSION PASSING THE GOTHIC HALL.



GREAT FOOT RACE, AT HOBOKEN, NEW YORK.

three stands [which] had been erected, were soon crowded to excess, as well as the whole area and steps in front of the City Hall—the windows were filled with ladies.

Thousands were congregated in the Park, awaiting the return of the masses in the procession. A dense mass of human beings occupied the portico of the City Hall, and the balconies, and every window were crowded with spectators.

We cannot find space for the speeches. They all touched on the questions of the tariff, Texas, and the old beaten ground taken by the Clay speakers. The principal orators were Casius M. Clay, Esq., of Lexington, and J. W. Fowler, Esq., of Otsego—the latter being the best speaker on the occasion—a good orator—brilliant and versatile. Neither Mr. Webster nor Mr. Choate, though announced, appeared.

A second platform was erected in front of the eastern wing of the City Hall, where, shortly after the proceedings commenced at the others, a meeting was organised. Among the humours of the crowd was a person in the Park, singing—

“Alas, poor Cooney Clay,
Alas, poor Cooney Clay,
He never shall be President,
I hear the people say!”

There was a third platform, where two speakers addressed the crowd from either end, and the whole business having terminated, the crowds dispersed, the Park was cleared out and the platforms taken away, leaving “not a wreck behind.”

In the evening, the triumphal arch in Broadway, opposite Masonic Hall, was illuminated with variegated lamps, as also the front of Masonic and National Halls, which, with the Tabernacle, were filled with speakers and listeners, but the whole of the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

The decorative details of the illustration are, certainly, very tasteful. The immense banner suspended above the arch was of thin gauze, and represented the American flag, with red and white stripes; and upon the latter was the inscription, in black letters. All the flags upon the arch were of the gayest colours, and the wreaths beneath of dahlias and leaves; the medal of Clay being framed in dahlias. The arch was a graceful ellipse, composed of red and blue open bars, alternately; in the distance was a large clock. The pavilion (seen in the engraving) was an immense car, about 20 feet long, and very lofty, thickly decked with flags, and hung with every variety of native manufacture—rich carpets, festooned printed calico, &c.; the carriage was drawn by eight bay horses, draped with the American flag, and each horse bearing a small one on the forehead, and a larger one on the collar. This pavilion was preceded by an immensely long car, decorated with American flags, and containing blacksmiths at work, with forge, anvil, &c., together with stonemasons, &c.; this car being drawn by eight white horses.

GREAT TEN-MILE FOOT RACE IN AMERICA.

This extraordinary feat is described in the *New York Spirit of the Times* as “The Fastest Race ever Run in the World—Old England A-head—Ten Miles in 54 min. 21 sec.” The match had long been projected in New York, and it, accordingly, came off on Tuesday, Nov. 19, before the largest assemblage of spectators ever gathered upon an American race-course, the arena being the Beacon Course, Hoboken. According to the *Spirit of the Times*, a single steam-boat from Albany brought down four hundred; New Jersey, Long Island, and the river towns on the Hudson, furnished immense crowds, while New York sent over materials for an army three times larger than that with which Napoleon made his Italian campaign. From the head of the quarter-stretch quite around to the drawgate, the enclosed space was so densely crammed as to render it nearly impossible to clear a space wide enough for the pedestrians to run through, though they were preceded by a dozen men on horseback. Thousands filled the stands, but it would have required the Amphitheatre of Titus to have accommodated all.

The runners were two New Yorkers, two Americans, one Connecticut man, one Indian, one Irishman, and two Englishmen—Barlow, at the head of our ten milers, and a trainer of pedestrians; and Greenhalgh among our best runners at short distances. The names of all, however, will be found in the recapitulation below.

THE RACE.

After a few false starts, in which Barlow went off with a bulge like a quarter horse, Mr. Barker (who stood on the course nearly in a line with the men), gave the word “go.” The two Englishmen jumped off with the lead, and in a few moments the whole nine were out of sight, the railing and both sides of the course being densely thronged, so that even at the start the pedestrians had to “run the gauntlet.” The judges could only note the position of the leading men by watching that of several horses abreast.

We have not space for the details of the running of the several miles, except for the—

TENTH MILE.—It was apparent that Barlow, barring accidents, had the race safe, upon his commencing this mile. Upon commencing the second quarter of this mile, it was evident that Barlow was increasing his pace; but Greenhalgh, who had not yet run a yard at his best, was now going like a scared dog. Gildersleeve, by a tremendous effort, “hurried the mourners” around the first quarter of a mile, where Greenhalgh ran up to his side, turned full upon him, exclaiming, “Good by, Gilder!” and left him as if he was standing still. The next three quarters of a mile were run by Greenhalgh faster, we are persuaded, than the same distance was ever performed in this country. He gained forty seconds upon Barlow, though the latter ran this mile ten seconds quicker than he did the ninth, that is, in 5:25. Greenhalgh must have run this mile in about 4:48!! Barlow beat Steeprock.

rock exactly 173 yards, while Greenhalgh was less than 90 yards behind him. Gildersleeve was a bad fourth, being about 212 yards behind Greenhalgh. M'Cabe was a long way behind, and Taylor had not reached the head of the quarter stretch, when Barlow came through.

Thus terminated, amidst the most tremendous cheers from all parts of the course, one of the most extraordinary pedestrian performances on record.

RECAPITULATION—OFFICIAL.

BRACON COURSE, N.J., opposite New York City, Nov. 19th, 1844, Purse 1200 dollars, for running ten miles, to be divided as follows:—700 dollars to the first; 250 dollars to the second; 150 dollars to the third; 75 dollars to the fourth; and 25 dollars to the fifth in the race. Free for all pedestrians. Entrance, 5 dollars each.

NAMES.	MILES.									
	1st	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
John Barlow, Englishman ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
John Steeprock, Indian ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Thos. Greenhalgh, Englishman ..	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
John Gildersleeve, New Yorker ..	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Thomas M'Cabe, Irishman ..	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
J. P. Taylor, Connecticut ..	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Joseph T. L. Smith, New Yorker ..	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
John Underhill, American ..	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Thomas Jackson, American ..	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

* Stopped.

Time of 1st mile ..	5:10	Aggregate of Time ..	5:10
“ 2nd mile ..	5:15	“ 2 miles ..	10:25
“ 3rd mile ..	5:22	“ 3 miles ..	15:47
“ 4th mile ..	5:25	“ 4 miles ..	21:12
“ 5th mile ..	5:28	“ 5 miles ..	26:40
“ 6th mile ..	5:31	“ 6 miles ..	32:11
“ 7th mile ..	5:34	“ 7 miles ..	37:45
“ 8th mile ..	5:36	“ 8 miles ..	43:21
“ 9th mile ..	5:35	“ 9 miles ..	48:56
“ 10th mile ..	5:25	“ 10 miles ..	54:21
Barlow's time ..	54:21	Gildersleeve's time ..	55:51
Steeprock's time ..	54:53	M'Cabe's time ..	56:52
Greenhalgh's time ..	55:10	Taylor's time ..	59:52

Below, we give the details of a foot-race in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, on Monday last: the result eclipses our Transatlantic pedestrians.

It should be added, that in the United States, the race-courses are entirely inclosed by a high fence, the charge for admittance within which is 24 cents, or an English shilling. There is another inclosure, with high gates all round the Grand Stand, the admittance within which is 25 cents. The point of the Race represented, is that at which Gilders is passing the two Englishmen.

GREAT RUNNING MATCH FOR TWO HUNDRED POUNDS.

On Monday the long pending great foot race, between Sheppard and Jackson (alias the American Deer), came off near the Duke of York, Gannick corner, near Barnet. The terms of this match were that each man should start at one time, and which ever ran over the greatest distance of ground within one hour to be deemed the winner. Both men have acquired great celebrity, and were considered two of the fastest pedestrians (for a long distance) in England. In betting, 6 to 4 were freely laid on Sheppard, and perhaps on no other running match was so much money speculated. One mile of road was measured, over which the match was to be decided. The competitors started at about the rate of one mile in six minutes. They continued nearly together till the eighth mile, when Sheppard appeared at an advantage. Upon the approach of the tenth mile Jackson increased his speed, and pressed his opponent, and on the turn of this mile Sheppard staggered and fell, completely exhausted. Jackson then ran during the remaining seven minutes, and ultimately came off the winner, having ran eleven miles all but 100 yards in one hour, over a heavy road.

THE WINDSOR GRAND MILITARY STEEPLE CHASE.—The entries for this sporting event, which will take place on the 25th of March, closed on the 1st inst. An excellent line of country has been selected by the stewards, within about two miles of Windsor, and close to Dedworth-green. Three events have been announced to come off on the same day (Easter Tuesday), viz.:—A military chase for horses the property of officers; a chase for a sweepstakes of five sovereigns each; and a hack chase for one sovereign each. The following are the entries for the military chase:—Lord Glamis's br g Tea-fighter, aged; Earl of Longford, 2nd Life Guards, names The Dentist, aged; Captain Blane's, 2nd Life Guards, br gr The Martyr, 6 yrs; Captain Scobell's, 17th Lancers, Cock Robin; Lieutenant Miles's, 17th Lancers, The Colonel; Lieutenant Langley's, 2nd Life Guards, b g The Cardinal, aged; Mr. Pyett's br g Usandon; Captain Boucherett's, 17th Lancers, The Impostor.—Mr. R. Sutton and Sir Charles Kent, 1st Life Guards, and Major Ogilvie and Mr. Hesketh, 2nd Life Guards, have paid forfeit. The stewards are Captain Mountjoy Martin and W. A. Tollemache, Esq., 2nd Life Guards, and Major Lawrenson, 17th Lancers.—Some excellent sport is anticipated.

ROWING MATCH.—The scullers' contest between Thomas Coombs, of Millbank, and Joseph Leach, of Lambeth, for £10 a side, came off on Tuesday. The distance was from Westminster to Putney, and Coombs appeared to have the call in the betting circle. The race disappointed the expectations of those who had assembled to witness it. Coombs won the choice of station, and went to the Middlesex side, his adversary being at the next pier. Immediately after the start, and before their arrival at Lucas's-road, Leach gradually rowed away from his man, retained the lead, and won by upwards of forty yards. Coombs, who had started well, appeared to have strained his arm immediately afterwards.

THE ROYAL BUCK HOUNDS.—DEATH OF THE CELEBRATED STAG HIGH-FLYER.—The Royal buck hounds had one of the most splendid runs of the season on Monday; but which, however, resulted in the death of Highflyer, one of the most celebrated deer which has been hunted by the Royal pack. The meet was at New Lodge, the field numbering upwards of 200 of the neighbouring gentry and yeomen. Highflyer, upon being uncared, took away in gallant style to the Pump House, on to North-street, and Hatchet-lane, to Ascot-place, into Miss Ferard's park, leaping the palings into the road near the lodge, and thence over Chevy-downs to the plantations at Swinley, through Easthampstead, to Henniker-lodge, near Finchampstead, without a check, and at a rattling racing pace. Here the pack were at fault, but upon being laid on on the Heath, Highflyer made for Eversley, in Hampshire, where he got into the mill-stream, with the hounds close at his heels, and was drowned before his feet pursuers could be called off.

DEATH OF DEAF BURKE.—On Wednesday afternoon the above-named individual, so long well known in the pugilistic circles, died at his lodgings in Francis-street, Waterloo-road, Lambeth. Deaf Burke in many instances has been known to risk his life for the preservation of others. During the destruction of Astley's Theatre, he was one of the foremost in endeavouring to arrest the progress of the fire, and save the horses.



FOOT RACE NEAR BARNET.

CAUTION!

The Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS having at great expense engraved a Large Print of London and the Thames, accompanied by a New History of the Metropolis, are surprised to see advertised by some dishonest persons, an inferior and unfairly imitative production under the same name. They, therefore, beg to Caution their Subscribers and the Public against the substitution of the above Imitation for their Print, announced for publication twelve months ago!

198, STRAND, Jan. 10, 1845.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 12.—First Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 13.—Plough Monday.
TUESDAY, 14.—Oxford Lent Term begins.
WEDNESDAY, 15.—Moon first Quarter.
THURSDAY, 16.—Battle of Corunna, 1809.
FRIDAY, 17.—Dr. Franklin born, 1706.
SATURDAY, 18.—Old Twelfth Day.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge, for the Week ending Jan. 18.

Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h. m. 27 5 49	h. m. 6 7	h. m. 6 39	h. m. 6 51	h. m. 7 12	h. m. 7 33
h. m. 27 5 49	h. m. 6 7	h. m. 6 39	h. m. 6 51	h. m. 7 12	h. m. 7 33

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Caledonia," Edinburgh.—The Census of Scotland and Ireland may be had, by order, of any newsman.
"M. D.," Upper Berkeley-street.—Any strictures upon the lamentable case in question would be now unattended with beneficial result.
"A Subscriber and Constant Reader."—A pamphlet entitled the "Railway Directory," gives lists of directors.
"A Subscriber."—We have not room for the Swedish Legend.
"Percy Longmore," Cheltenham.—No change of name is recognised without Act of Parliament.
"S. W. D.," Shoulham-street.—The friends of the servant can be compelled to provide clothes.
"P. P. B."—We do not answer impertinent questions as to the ages of ladies.
"R. L.," Manchester.—If our subscriber will remit 26s. to the office, he will receive a year's numbers and the Large Print.
"Vernon" is thanked; he will be entitled to the Large Print.
"Cecilia Isabel."—The name of Couper is pronounced as spelt.
"G. M.," Liverpool.—See our present No.
"M. A. C.," Dublin, should apply to Messrs. Johnston, Eden-quay, Dublin.
"A Reader," Frome.—See "Dr. Arnott's Elements of Physics."
"H. G. H.," Winesouid.—The paper was duly forwarded by the post. Of course, the son cannot interfere with the will in question. The reasons why statues of men are represented without hats is for the avoidance of modern costume.
"Covenry."—The present Governor of St. Helena is Lieut.-Colonel Hamelin Trevelyan.
"Contarini" should write to Mr. Kenneth, Theatrical Agent, Covent-garden, respecting the Dramatic Authors' Society.
"Chelsea" should write to Mr. Alderman Johnson, Millbank.
"A. F." will be entitled to the Large Print.
"Guido."—The engravings will only appear in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.
"Q. R.," Hoxton.—The only mode of proceeding is by application to the Court of Chancery.
"A Friend!" should make interest with a Foreign Ambassador.
"Medicus," Wisbeach.—Main or Abercrombie on Gardening.
"A Subscriber," Northampton.—The person will be liable to pay single only.
"L. L.," Gardening Operations are to be found in the "Illustrated London Almanack for 1845."
"S. F.," Tahiti and Otaheite are synonymous.
"G. B.," Glasgow.—We are not aware of the work whence the paragraph was quoted.
"An Old Londoner" is thanked.
"One of the Members," Rye.—The right depends on the rules of the society.
"A Friend to Jack Sepoy."—The sketches shall appear.
"A Guernseyman."—Mr. and Mrs. C. Keane are in Dublin. The time for the return of Mr. Macready is not fixed. The suggestion shall be borne in mind.
"Well-wisher" will be entitled to the Large Print.
"Caduceus."—We shall see.
"J. W. M."—A Postmaster is entitled to explain the cause of any irregularity.
"A Subscriber" is thanked for the hint.
"A General Officer" may hear of the work he requires at Parker and Co.'s, Military Booksellers, Charing-cross.
"L. M.," Amersham.—Harding's Short-hand.
"J. C."—The Tale will not suit.
"E. K.," Norwich.—Dependent on the merit.
"Twynford," Hants.—The style is correct.
"A Subscriber," Hull.—We do not understand the former part of our correspondent's letter; the fault of folding the paper rests with the newsman supplying it.
"A Subscriber," Birmingham.—The hint is impracticable.
"A Yorkshire Farmer."—We do not know the average price of wheat for the whole year 1844, but for the last six weeks of the year it was 45s. 6d. per imperial quarter.
Ineligible.—The Motherless Child, by a Subscriber; Lines, "Twas when the Night;" Lament, by T. L.; Lines, by J. S. D.; The Lost Steam-ship.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE PRINT.

Our Subscribers can receive the Print post-free, if accompanied with the paper.
It is recommended to mount the Print, or place it as a frontispiece to Vol. V.
Subscribers in London can have their Prints mounted and coloured at Mr. Moore's, Upper St. Martin's-lane, at trifling expense.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY, 11, 1845.

AN acquaintance with fact is the great corrective of the false impressions of fiction. The great gatherers and disposers of facts in the present age, are newspapers, and accordingly we find that they are the principal media through which we receive the strongest shocks to those romances we have suffered ourselves to weave about distant countries, other nations, and great men as yet unseen.

To thousands even now Spain appears in the colouring of Bal-lad and Romance, as a "sunny land," where cigars, grapes, and guitar-strings are the great necessities of life, and whose people inherit something of the chivalry and bravery described in the "Cid." An account of Sir John Moore's retreat would set them right as to the climate, and for the people, all we have read of them lately exhibits them as men, who, if they can be judged from the deeds they permit in their rulers, have preserved few of the advantages they once possessed from civilization, and lost all the better influences that spring from Christianity. In them religion seems to have eradicated nothing of the savage, except that courage, which even in the savage, has been esteemed a redeeming virtue. The governing party in Spain, and their instruments, have exhibited the two worst qualities of the brigand, an insatiable greed for money, and indifference to the shedding of blood to procure it; or the power that can be converted into it. The Spaniard has terribly degenerated in character and power, since the time when a Phillip sat on the throne, with an Alba for his minister. But even in their best days, there was something dark and fiercely cruel in the national character, a blood thirstiness that scarcely asked the poor motives of passion or revenge, as an excuse for spilling it. Among no other people could such a power as the Inquisition have been established; the French would not tolerate it; even the Neapolitans rebelled against it; the Spaniards found something congenial in its policy, which was at once secret, unscrupulous, and cruel. The power and greatness of Spain—for she was both great and powerful—have perished, but the same taint exists in the character of the people. Cruelty and lawlessness stain both public and social life; a private enemy is dispatched by a stab, and

a political opponent is got rid of by shooting him; party warfare is not a conflict of principles, but a battle of lives. This fierce spirit is inherent in the race, and breaks out wherever Spaniards have settled, and that with indications of deeper degeneracy. At this moment, as for the last eight years, the Spanish Colonies of South America are the scene of atrocities that could not be surpassed by the most barbarous savages the old voyagers ever discovered. The public has heard something of the Argentine Republic, and its present military ruler, Rosas. He is now engaged in a war with Monte Video, and not long since attempted a blockade of that port, which has grown to a place of considerable trade with Brazil, America, and England. So weak are the wretches who devastate the provinces unhappily overrun by them, when opposed with any vigour and skill, that "one or two guns from the United States frigate, Congress, dissipated what was called the Blockading Squadron of the Argentine Republic in half an hour, and any well armed merchantman might have done the same." But by land the war has been ferocious beyond all parallel, though, as yet, unsuccessful, and with the interference now promised, of the English and Brazilian Governments, it is to be hoped that Rosas and his ruffians may be checked. To give a notion of his character we extract some details from the *Times*, which, it were to be wished, could be disbelieved. Rosas attained supreme power in 1835, and

One of his first acts, on the 8th of July, 1836, was to cause 110 Indians, who had been brought down from the Pampas, to be put to death, and, in order to strike terror into the population of Buenos Ayres, they were taken out in dozens, and shot before all the people. Four of their chiefs were brought to the barracks, where they had their throats cut, along with two little children!

And he has ever since proceeded as he commenced; "things bad begun make strong themselves by ill." He has now governed nine years; what he has done during that time appears, from a work with the appropriate title of *Tablas de Sangre*, "Tables of blood," published by a Signor Indarte. It is shown that down to the end of 1843, Rosas and his followers, "had put to death by poison four persons; by cutting the throat, 3,765; by shooting, 1,393; by private assassination, 722; whilst in the murderous civil wars of the last ten years nearly 15,000 men have been slain, every battle being followed by a butchery of prisoners, and 1,600 captives or wounded men have been put to death by the lance."

Unchecked by the public opinion of Europe, too remote to be heeded, and beneath the burning sun of the south, all the worst qualities inherent in the Spanish blood have descended through several generations, assimilating more and more to those of the savage, at each remove from the old stock. Only of such a race could deeds like the following be narrated:

The word "Resbalosa" was invented by Rosas to convey to his infernal agents, a particular mode of despatching their victims. It meant that they were to be tied up naked, with their hands behind their backs, whilst the assassins cut their throats slowly with knives or a saw; and this horrible torture was accompanied by a song made for the occasion. The slightest trifles afforded a sufficient pretext for these monstrous cruelties, which partook rather of the amusements of cannibals than the known practices of wars or persecutions even in the most fanatical age. One man was shot in prison for wearing a fancy dress on his way to see his mistress; another for having steered a Montevideo bark: in the month of October 1843, the Masorqueros repaired every night to the city of Buenos Ayres, from Rosas' camp, or rather Golgotha, called the "Santos Lugares," hard by the walls, to murder and pillage the inhabitants, no less than 400 of whom were slaughtered in their houses by these ruffians in three weeks.

These cruelties were practised on his subjects, and what notion does it convey of him when we are told that in war, they varied and doubled in atrocity against his foes? Commerce has brought many of our countrymen in close contact with these horrors. They are becoming known, and will we hope be checked by the interference of civilized governments with a man whom it is a charity to suppose the possession of unbridled power has deprived of reason.

THE only stir in Home politics is confined to Ireland, and there a Church controversy seems to be taking the place of more secular questions. The Charitable Bequests Act has divided the Catholic Hierarchy, Mr. O'Connell taking part against many of the bishops. For the present Repeal is not the one sole topic of discussion.

The Foreign intelligence continues, under these circumstances, to attract more attention than it would at a more busy time, and even this may be briefly summed up. The French Ministry has stood the shock it was subjected to, both from without and within; if the attack was planned by the opposition it was a decided failure, but it will unquestionably be renewed. The prevailing opinion in Paris is that the Ministry will again succeed on the Address, but that Guizot is wished out of office by those who were once among his strongest supporters, and that he will finally have to yield to the combination against him. It has been reported in Paris that the English Government has consented to some modification of the Treaties of 1831 and 1833, on the subject of the Right of Search.

The position of affairs between Mexico and the United States is growing more and more unsatisfactory. The Americans are resolved to "absorb" Texas into the Federation; Mr. Calhoun says, "it is the destiny" of America to occupy that vast region; nations do not now invade or conquer; they merely "occupy," as France would have done with Tahiti, or they "increase by accretion," a phrase which diplomacy owes to Mr. Calhoun. Mexico cannot comprehend this new phraseology, conceiving that it conceals the very old practice of conquest and aggression, and will protest against it. But the question does not wholly rest between Mexico and the United States. By throwing off the authority of Mexico, the Texians plainly enough showed they had no love for the connection; and the danger is that they will now be as ready to enter into the union with America, as the great republic is to "annex" them. At present Mexico possesses no actual authority over them, and from the language of the American Secretary, it may readily be inferred the States will not scruple to use force, if Mexico persists in defending an abstract right. The following, for instance, reads like a threat of what may happen, if Mexico does not submit quietly, and ventures to call for foreign interference:—"If America should not be resisted in its course, it will probably fulfil its destiny without disturbing our neighbours, or putting in jeopardy the general peace; but if it be opposed by foreign interference, a new direction would be given to our energy, much less favourable to harmony with our neighbours, and to the general peace of the world."

THE STATE OF THE REVENUE.

In part of our impression last week, we were able to make the gratifying announcement of the improved state of the Revenue; we now give a summary of the results presented by the official tables of the Revenue, for the Quarter ending the 5th of January.

The accounts are very satisfactory, presenting a course of improvement in all the principal heads of finance; indeed, upon all the heads, without exception, that can be accepted as indices of the prosperity and comfort of the people.

The total of the Year's income is £51,235,538.

The net increase upon the Year is therefore £1,163,595.

The total revenue of the Quarter ending on Saturday last is £12,705,693.

The net increase upon the Quarter as compared with the quarter ending Jan. 5, 1844, is £493,916.

The increase of Customs on the Year is £1,305,453.

The increase of Excise is, upon the year, £365,000, exactly one thousand pounds a day.

In all the other departments of revenue except the Property Tax (which presents a trifling decrease, arising from relaxation as to the time of collecting), there is more or less of increase, and the excess of this year's revenue over the last year would, in fact, amount to more than two millions sterling were it not for repayments and miscellaneous charges, which, in strictness, do not properly come into a revenue account, being the payments of debts, not a drawback upon income.

On the Quarter, compared with Quarter ending January 5, 1844, we find the gross increase is:—

Customs	£135,167
Excise	200,169
Stamps	78,005
Taxes	11,633
Income-tax	33,126
Post-office	3,000
Crown Lands	20,000
Imprest and other moneys	96,623

Leaving gross increase on Quarter..... £577,723

From this deduct decrease—

Miscellaneous	£2,727
Repayments of Advances	81,080
	83,807

Nett increase on quarter..... £493,916

It is particularly gratifying to observe that the main items of improvement, both on the Year and on the Quarter, are from Customs, Excise, and other departments which are looked on as in some measure a test of the prosperity or depression of the mass of the community.

THE WEATHER.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

In your paper of the 28th December last, you had a paragraph setting forth that Mr. Murphy had foretold that the 8th of January would be the coldest day of the winter. You will receive this on the 8th, and your own feelings will prove to you, that Mr. Murphy predicts the weather on a false principle. The 7th is mild, my thermometer out of doors is now (11 A.M.) at 46 deg., and I foretell that the 8th will be mild also. But the 9th will be colder. The weather will be mild till after the 20th, but afterwards extremely cold, stormy, and severe, with snow. The 24th very cold and the 29th severe also.

In your paper of the 28th Dec., you also noticed "an earthquake of some violence in Savoy, during the night of the 10th Dec." This you will see was foretold by me in the *Literary and Scientific Register*, as the following extract will evince. I have predicted the weather many years before Mr. Murphy, who is right only when he follows my system.

"Electrical Phenomena."—There will be furious storms from the 10th to the 12th, with extreme electrical excitement, and in some places earthquakes, more violent than usual."

Yours, &c.,

R. J. MORRISON, Lieut. Royal Navy.

P.S. If you think it will interest your readers, I will give you the daily weather, according to my system, which when the Electricity of the Atmosphere is not affected by the presence of Comets in the vicinity of the Earth will be correct five days in six.

The following is for January:—

11th. Changeable, windy, meteors	22nd. Frost, windy
12th. Stormy, hail and rain	23rd. Sharp frost, meteors
13th. Fog, frost, snow, showers	24th. Very cold, sharp frost, fog
14th. Unsettled, foggy air	25th. Snow showers, frost
15th. Frosty, dull, stormy	26th. Severe frost, snow
16th. Frost, stormy air	27th. Changes, frosty
17th. Cloudy, rainy	28th. Changes, storms, frost
18th. Fairer, but meteors or lightning	29th. Very cold, dull, hard frost
19th. Stormy, yet mild air	30th. Stormy and cold, snow
20th. Fair and warm	31st. Dull, cold fog or snow
21st. Stormy, colder	

COURT AND HAUT TON.

On Saturday last the Queen and Prince Albert walked for some time in the grounds adjacent to the Castle in the forenoon. On the return of the Royal party his Royal Highness went to shoot at Cranbourne, attended by Mr. Anson and Colonel Bouverie. Her Majesty, attended by the Countess of Charlemont, rode out in a pony phaeton in the morning, Major-General Wemyss attending on horseback.

WINDSOR, Sunday.—The Queen, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, the Court, and the domestic household attended divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Rev. Charles Leslie Courtenay officiated. The Duchess of Kent was attended by Lady Fanny Howard.

MONDAY.—The Queen and Prince Albert walked in the Home-park and pleasure-grounds around the Castle in the early part of the morning. In the afternoon her Majesty and the Prince promenaded on the terrace, and in the pleasure-grounds and Home-park. The Austrian Ambassador and the Countess Dietrichstein arrived at the Castle to-day, on a visit to the Queen. The Earl of Aberdeen and Mr. Patrick Fraser Tytler also arrived on a visit to her Majesty. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and Lady Fanny Howard joined the Royal circle at dinner to-day.

TUESDAY.—The Queen walked out for some time this morning, attended by Lady Caroline Cocks. Prince Albert, accompanied by the Austrian Ambassador (Count Dietrichstein), and the Earls of Liverpool and Delawarr, left the Castle this morning on a shooting excursion in the Royal preserves, attended by Mr. Anson and Colonel Bouverie. James Bentley, Esq., the Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Thomas R. Bartrum, Esq., Richard Gilbert, Esq., and John Dixon, Esq., governors (a deputation from the Hospital), had the honour of an audience of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, at the Castle, this morning, to present to his Royal Highness a green staff, and a copy on vellum of the resolution of the Court, upon his Royal Highness becoming a governor of that ancient foundation, which the Prince was pleased to accept.

WEDNESDAY.—The Queen and Prince Albert walked out for some time this afternoon. The Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter arrived at the Castle to-day, on a visit to the Queen.

WINDSOR, THURSDAY EVENING.—(From our own Correspondent).—Every preparation is being made for the departure of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, on Wednesday next, for Stowe, to honour the Duke and Duchess of Buckingham with a visit. The Court will remain at Stowe until the following Saturday. The infant royal family will continue at the Castle during the absence of their illustrious parents. The weather to-day being unfavourable for out-door exercise, the Queen promenaded but a short time this morning in the immediate vicinity of the Castle. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Major-General Wemyss, Col. Bouverie, and Mr. G. E. Anson, hunted this morning with the Prince's pack of harriers. Her Majesty gave a small dinner party at the Castle this evening. The Band of the Royal Horse Guards were in attendance during the banquet, and the Queen's private band performed the remainder of the evening.

Her Majesty, with her accustomed generosity, has given, we are informed, out of her privy purse, the sum of £1,000 a year to Sir Augustus D' Este, which is equal to the sum Sir Augustus lost by the death of the Duke of Sussex.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO STOWE.—Great preparations are in active progress for the reception of the Queen and Prince Albert at the mansion of the Duke and Duchess of Buckingham, at Stowe. Upon all such visits it is customary for the host and hostess to lay aside those titles and all the domestic control and privileges belonging to them—to resign for a period all personal right and social command in favour of their Sovereign, and to become honoured servants as well as favoured subjects. So during her stay at Stowe, all invitations will be issued from the Court. The arrangements of the house—the "orders of the day"—the ceremonies and adjustments—the pleasures and pastimes, &c., which are indispensable to Majesty—the appointments and regulations of all kinds, will be left entirely to the will and disposal of the Regal hostess of Stowe for the time being, and her officers of state. The illuminations at Stowe will be of a very extensive kind. The external aspect, never other than imposing, abounds (notwithstanding the absence of foliage) in natural beauties, and the numerous and splendid works of art around it add to the magnificence of the scene. Nothing can surpass the internal grandeur and elegance for which it is famous. Rarest specimens of art and skill, and of expensive manufacture, meet the eye in every direction, and all the luxuries of civilization and refinement are here displayed. At Buckingham everybody seems brimful of loyalty—and no doubt but the feeling will find proper vent when the time arrives for exhibiting it. [We shall take care to present our readers with a full account of the visit.]

LADY PEEL AND MISS FRANCES BROWN.—The following letter was sent by the Prime Minister to Miss Frances Brown, the blind poetess of Ulster, on Christmas Eve:—"Whitehall, Dec. 24.—Madam—There is a fund applicable, as vacancies may occur, to the grant of annual pensions of very limited amount, which usage has placed at the disposal of the lady of the First Minister. On this fund there is a surplus of £20 per annum. Lady Peel has heard of your honourable and successful exertions to mitigate, by literary acquirements, the effects of the misfortune by which you have been visited; and should the grant of this pension for your life be acceptable to you, Lady Peel will have great satisfaction in such an appropriation of it.—I am, &c.,

"ROBERT PEEL."

Sir Robert Peel arrived at his residence, in Whitehall-gardens, on Wednesday evening, from Drayton Manor, Staffordshire.

PROPOSED MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.—A matrimonial alliance, it is understood, is about to be formed between Colonel Ridley, of the Guards, brother to Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., of Blagdon, and the Hon Miss Browne, daughter of Lord Oranmore, and niece to the Dowager Viscountess Dillon.

The Duke of Grafton has appointed the Reverend Thomas Sworde, M.A., rector of St. Peter's, Thetford, to be his Grace's domestic chaplain.

MUSIC.

CROSBY HALL CONCERTS

The third Concert of Sacred Music was given at Crosby Hall on Wednesday evening last; the whole series have been given under the direction of the Committee of the Crosby Hall Literary and Scientific Institution, and the members of that Committee have certainly exhibited on each occasion a sound taste in the selection of the music; the finest specimens of the first composers have been given at every concert.

On Wednesday evening the selection comprised pieces from the works of Purcell, Crotch, Handel, Spohr, Cherubini, Haydn, Weber, and Beethoven. The principal solos were sung by Miss Rainforth and Miss Dolby, Mr. Francis and Mr. J. A. Novello, supported by an able and well conducted chorus. The novelty of the evening was an aria with chorus, by Mendelssohn, "Hear my prayer, O God," stated in the programme to have been written expressly for these concerts, this being the first time of its performance. It is a grand and noble composition, and the exquisite manner in which it was sung by Miss Rainforth elicited the warmest applause. It is worthy of the master's reputation. Another novelty was a corale, "With glory clad," by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. These concerts of sacred music are well supported, and the whole of the series have given the greatest satisfaction.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council, the first previous to the meeting of Parliament, was held at the Foreign-Office on Thursday afternoon. All the ministers in town were present. Previous to the Council, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Earl of Aberdeen, had interviews with Sir Robert Peel, at the right hon. baronet's residence in Whitehall-gardens.

THE WELLINGTON STATUE AT THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.—On Thursday morning masons were engaged in cutting the inscription on the pedestal of the statue of the Duke of Wellington, in front of the Royal Exchange. It simply bears the name of the illustrious soldier on each side, and at the back will be, "Erected June 18, 1844." The paving in front of the Exchange has been completed in a very ornamental manner. The design is a large star, set in a circle, and the whole in a square. The different compartments are marked out distinctly by different coloured stone. The statue of the Duke stands in a circle similarly formed.

CHINESE RANSOM.—On Tuesday last, Her Majesty's ship the *Harlequin*, Commander the Hon. F. Hastings, brother to the late Marquis of Hastings and Lady Flora, and M. Edington, Esq., Master, arrived at Plymouth, bringing part of the Chinese ransom amounting to 400,000 dollars.

REPORTED ABOLITION OF DUTIES.—A correspondent informs us, on what he asserts to be unquestionable authority, that it is the intention of the Minister, in the approaching session of Parliament, to abolish the duty on raw cotton, to reduce the duty on tea, to make £300, not as at present £150, a year the minimum of annuity liable to the income tax; and to reduce the present reduced 3 per Cents. to 2½ per Cent., secured for the term of twenty years.—*Morning Advertiser.* [There are generally many reports of this kind shortly before the meeting of Parliament. It is, however, to be remarked, that if Sir Robert Peel had an intention of making these reductions, it is very unlikely that he would allow the fact to transpire.]

ROBBERY AT THE LONDON DOCKS.—A robbery of a daring character was effected at the London Docks last week. A hoghead, lying in one of the tiers of packages of leaf tobacco, of which there are several thousands in the warehouse appropriated to the deposit of that article at the East-quay, was plundered to the amount of nearly 150lbs. weight. The Company directed a strict search to be made at the residence of one of the suspected parties, where they found a large portion of the missing tobacco concealed; one of them has been apprehended. When it is considered that the warehouse in which this tobacco was deposited is at all times under the locks of the Crown, the official keys being removed from the warehouse daily, at the closing hour of business, to a place of trust and security, it appears somewhat extraordinary how such a daring robbery could be accomplished. This is, we believe, the sixth instance of a robbery having taken place in the short space of a month, at this and the neighbouring docks.

SEIZURE OF TOBACCO AT ST. KATHERINE'S DOCKS.—On Saturday last a large quantity of tobacco and cigars was discovered hidden behind some packages on the quay at St. Katherine's Docks, which, it was supposed, had been surreptitiously landed from a vessel now discharging her cargo, from the United States, to await the opportunity of removal from the premises with some goods about to be shifted into craft, to be landed elsewhere, which was immediately seized by the customs' officers. On Monday afternoon a further quantity, consisting of forty pounds weight of manufactured negro-head tobacco, done up in the same manner, and of exactly the same description as that discovered on the quay, on Saturday, was found concealed behind the door of a shed adjoining the place, which was immediately seized by the same parties.

BURGLARY AT PIMLICO.—Early on Monday evening, during the temporary absence of the family, the house of Mr. Turner, one of the Queen's marshmen, in Graham-street, Pimlico, was entered, and property consisting of plate, jewellery, wearing apparel, and other things, was stolen therefrom. It appears that the thieves effected an entrance at the parlour window, and, having lighted a candle, lost no time in ransacking the whole house. Doors, boxes, and drawers were broken open, and their contents turned out in a style which clearly evinced that no inexperienced hands had been engaged in the work. It is said, that some valuable articles were stolen from the apartments of one of the lodgers, who holds a respectable situation in the royal household; but who is, at present, unfortunately, at Windsor. No clue has yet been obtained which might lead to the apprehension of the offenders. Suspicion, however, is entertained that a woman, who had in the course of the day applied for a petition to obtain relief from the Pimlico Philanthropic Society—of which Mr. Turner is a member—and who was afterwards seen at a short distance from the house, was concerned in the robbery. A report is also in circulation that a gang of notorious burglars is living in the neighbourhood.

COUNTRY NEWS.

MANCHESTER AND LEEDS RAILWAY.—On Wednesday, a special general meeting of the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company was held at the Palace Hotel, Manchester, Henry Houldsworth, Esq., in the chair. After a long discussion, it was agreed to form a branch line from Todmorden to Burnley, eight and a half miles in length, to join the Burnley and Blackburn line, and perfect the connection between the Valley of the Calder and the populous manufacturing district round Blackburn and Preston; another branch-line from Oldham to Mumps, one mile and a quarter in length; another line from Oldham to Bury, for the purpose of connecting Rochdale, Oldham, and other towns lying eastward, including Wakefield, by a direct communication with Bury, and the important district round it; another line to go from the Manchester and Leeds line at Hunt's Bank, to the Manchester and Birmingham line through the town of Manchester, to connect the north and south lines together; a branch-line to Guide Bridge, from the Sheffield line; and another line, 47 miles in length, from Halifax to Dewsbury, Leeds, and Bradford. Capital to the amount of £1,400,000 was granted, and every power given to the directors fully to carry out their plans.

THE MURDER OF THE GAMEKEEPER AT CROOME.—The jury impanelled by the Coroner of Worcester (B. Hyde, Esq.), to inquire into the cause of death of Thomas Statte, who died in the Worcester infirmary on the 24th ult., met on Tuesday to resume their inquiry, which was adjourned on the 27th December. In the meantime, as we have already stated, several parties have been apprehended on suspicion of having been concerned in this murderous outrage, and two of them (Francis Dingley and Joseph Turvey) are now in the Worcester county prison. After a diligent inquiry, the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against Joseph Turvey and Francis Dingley, and some other persons to the jury unknown." The jury wished to append to their verdict a declaration alleging the evil effects of the game laws, but to this of course the Coroner could not consent.

ATTEMPT TO POISON A FAMILY AT MANCHESTER.—On Monday evening last an atrocious attempt to poison his wife and two children was made by Benjamin Anderson, a millwright, living in Long-street, Ancoats, Manchester. It appears that for several days past Anderson, who is in the employ of Messrs. Fairburn, the engineers, had been drinking, and on Saturday spent the entire of his wages in liquor. On Monday afternoon he came home about half-past three o'clock, and asked his wife to let him have some tea. Mrs. Anderson told him that the kettle was on the fire, and as soon as she had made some for her daughter, who worked in a factory, she would make him some. He immediately became very abusive, and told both his wife and son (a boy about eleven years old) that they should not stop in the house, and under a threat of being beaten they went into the street. Anderson then bolted the door, and refused to allow them to come in. As she stood near the window, Mrs. Anderson saw her husband go to the cupboard and take a quantity of onions out, which he placed in the window. After doing something else at the cupboard, Anderson opened the door and left the house without getting any tea. As soon as he was gone, Mrs. Anderson again ventured, and made some tea, sweetening it with brown sugar, which she noticed was speckled with white spots, but did not suspect any harm. Upon tasting the tea, however, she was much surprised at its nauseous taste, which was accompanied by a burning of the mouth. She had remarked to her son that the sugar was covered with white spots. She then made some more tea, which she sweetened with sugar from the same basin as before, and finding that the tea had the same burning, unpleasant taste, she sent for a neighbour, named Cooper, who likewise tasted the

mixture. They then made a little coffee, sweetening it with sugar which was wrapped up in the cupboard, and found it entirely free from any offensive taste. Upon examining some flour and meal, which were also in the cupboard, they were found to contain a plentiful admixture of the same sort of ingredient which had been found in the sugar. After consulting with Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Anderson took the white powder off the sugar to a drug-gist, who at once stated that sugar of lead had been mixed with it. Information was then given to the police, and the husband was apprehended and brought up at the Borough Police Court, before D. Maude, Esq. The prisoner was remanded to a future day, when the flour-meal and sugar will be subject to an analysis.

EXECUTION OF TWO MURDERERS AT KIRKDALE.—On Saturday last the execution of the two murderers, *Thomas Stew* and *George Evans*, took place at Kirkdale. The prisoners were condemned at the last Lancashire assizes. Stew, it will be remembered, murdered a young woman, named Alice Nolan, at Manchester, in July last, and, after having cut her throat with a razor, he made an attempt on his own life, which confined him to the infirmary, and prevented him from being tried at the Summer Assizes. The other culprit was convicted of murdering his landlady, an elderly lady, named Millen, with whom he lodged, for the purpose, it would seem, of merely plundering the house. Both persons confessed their guilt. In Stew's confession he said:—"I courted Alice Nolan for a little more than four months. She was as decent a young woman as any one would wish to keep company with, and I thought we should have lived comfortably together. About a month before her death I made her a promise to marry her in five weeks (the wedding-day was to have been the Sunday after the day on which she died), but could not keep my word in consequence of getting into bad company and spending all that I had. As, therefore, we could not live together on earth, I thought we might be happy together in heaven. I borrowed a razor, as appeared on my trial, to take her life and my own. With this razor in my pocket I took her on her way home, as I had been in the habit of doing, and when we reached a bank, the name of which I forget, very near to her house, we stood to talk together, as we had usually done before. She asked me if I was going to do what I had promised (namely, to marry her). I answered, 'No, I cannot, for I have been drinking very hard. I have left Stephen Bill's through drinking on Saturdays, and not looking after my horses on Sundays; but I got another place on Wednesday last, but it does not suit me so well as Stephen's place, for it will not be so constant an employ.' She said, 'Well, then, you must do as well as you can.' I then said, 'I am very badly vexed that I should have left the last place, and that I cannot put things forward as I could wish to do.' She said, 'Give me a kiss,' and I put my arm round her neck and gave one. She said, 'Shall we meet again at Sally's, on Monday night?' (meaning Mrs. Shepherd's) I said, still with my arm round her neck, 'No, I hope we shall meet in heaven next.' Then I drew the razor across her throat, upon which she exclaimed, 'Oh, my love, Tom!' Then I left her, and walked at my usual pace across a corner of a bank, along George-street and down Brewery-street, and so along the several streets to Mrs. Shepherd's. Down the entry, about half a yard from the door, I went down on my knees, and I said, 'I hope her is in heaven, and I shall soon meet her there.' I then drew the razor across my throat, after which I got up and fell against the door, which flew open, and I fell down into the house." In Evans's confession, he said the idea of murdering his landlady suddenly flashed across his mind when they were in the house together. She had previously taunted him for not having received an answer to a letter to his friends applying for money. The procession emerged from the chapel at twelve o'clock. Stew appeared to die instantly; the rope caused his wound to bleed afresh, and the white cap drawn over his face was discoloured by the blood. Evans, on the contrary, from his stronger frame, struggled hard before he died. A few minutes, and the crowd quietly dispersed. Many thousands were present. The ages of the malefactors were—Stew, twenty; Evans, twenty-two. Stew had a boyish aspect. They were dressed as mechanics.

MURDER NEAR LIVERPOOL.—A barbarous murder was committed on Saturday last in the vicinity of Rockferry, Cheshire. The unfortunate victim, a Mr. Thomas Peacop, of the firm of T. and H. Golding and Co., Rockferry, left his place of business at nine o'clock on Tuesday night last, rather later than usual, for his lodgings, which are situated at Beington Pasture, a small village, distant nearly half a mile, with the sum of £8. Mr. Peacop was known to be in the habit of taking with him every night the proceeds of the business of the day, and on the night in question, on leaving his shop, he observed a tall man, dressed in dark clothes, standing at the corner of the street. He was proceeding along a lonesome road, in the direction of his lodgings, when the same man joined him, and they walked side by side, for some little distance, together. When they had gone about 250 yards from Derby-house, two men suddenly jumped from a plantation and made their appearance on the footpath. The fellow who was accompanying Mr. Peacop gave a whistle, and instantly the two others sprang upon Mr. Peacop, felled him to the ground with a violent blow on the side of the head from a heavy stick or club. While down they struck him several other blows, and rifled his pocket of 21s. in silver which a little bag contained, but, in their hurry and confusion, left the remaining £7 behind them. At the time a gentleman, named Keyzier, was going home from the Rockferry, and hearing the noise, he ran to the spot and found Mr. Peacop weltering in his blood on the ground, and two fellows over him, one in the act of rifling his pockets, and the other attempting, as he thought, to strangle him. Mr. Keyzier immediately attempted to drag one of the fellows off, but he had scarcely uttered the exclamation when he received, from the hand of a third party, who had hitherto remained concealed in the hedge of the plantation, but who was, in all probability, the same fellow who had accompanied Mr. Peacop up the road, a violent blow on the right temple, which caused a deep wound and profuse flow of blood. Mr. Keyzier, notwithstanding the nature of the injury, struggled resolutely with the fellow who struck him the blow; but, fearing that Mr. Peacop was by this time strangled, and that, single-handed, he would have no chance in the hands of three such daring ruffians, he made the best of his way to Butler's public-house, called the Farmer's Inn, at the Pasture, where he informed the inmates of what was occurring. Instantly Mr. Butler, together with his ostler, George Deane, and a man named John Unsworth, armed with pokers and other weapons, sallied down the road, but, in the interim, the fellows had made their escape. Mr. Peacop had received several fractures and injuries on the head, and breathed his last at half-past seven o'clock next morning. Mr. Keyzier is rapidly recovering. A man of the name of Jones was arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the murder.

MURDER AT LEEDS.—An investigation before Mr. Blackburn, coroner for the borough of Leeds, relative to the death of Elizabeth Illingworth, the wife of William Illingworth, clock-maker, Wortley, Leeds, whose death had been caused by arsenic, was brought to a close, a few days ago, by the jury, who had been sworn to inquire into the circumstances of the case, returning a verdict of "Wilful Murder against Ann Simpson," a woman with whom the husband of the deceased had long lived. She was committed to York Castle, for trial at the next assizes.

IRELAND.

CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK.—The Lord Lieutenant, as Grand Master of the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick, held a chapter on Saturday, at Dublin Castle, when the Earl of Rosse and the Marquis of Waterford, having received the honour of knighthood, were admitted as knights of the order, with the usual formalities. The Primate, Lord John Beresford, read the declaration, which was subscribed by the new knights. During the investiture the Lord Primate sat and stood alternately on the right of his Excellency the Grand Master, and on his left was placed his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. The knights present were:—The Earl of Meath, the Earl of Roden, the Earl of Claremont, the Earl of Donoughmore, the Marquis of Headfort, the Earl of Milltown, and the Earl of Wicklow.

Her Majesty has signified her Royal pleasure that her name should stand at the head of the list of contributors to the repairs of the cathedral and chapter-house of St. Patrick's, Dublin, with the munificent donation of £200.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Mullen was the chairman of the meeting of the Repeal Association on Monday. He spoke with great confidence about Repeal, and denied that there was any apathy abroad on the subject. He said he had been lately in Meath, and there he found the same feelings in full activity which existed at the time of the great meeting on the memorable 15th of August at Tara. (Cheers.) Mr. Ray read a letter from the "Liberator," in which he stated that he had been so busy upon the Charitable Bequests Act that he had not time to prepare his promised address to the Irish people, but enclosed £51 from himself and thirty-five members of his family as a contribution to the Repeal rent. (Hear, hear.) He was desirous, on returning to town, which he would do so soon as he could tear himself away from that delightful place, to make arrangements which would prevent Repeal Members from attending Parliament, which he thought quite a useless employment for them. Mr. O'Brien moved a vote of thanks to Mr. O'Connell and the numerous members of his family who had made this handsome contribution to the funds. This being carried, Mr. Ray read a letter from Mr. Thomas Steele, giving an account of his pacific embassy and tour to Cavan, Leitrim, and other parts. The envoy represented himself as having done wonders in quieting disturbances wherever he went. He had only, in fact, to come, to see, and to conquer. Mr. W. Smith O'Brien made another oration about Repeal. He touched upon the question whether the Irish Repeal members generally should attend in Parliament or not. He (Mr. O'Brien) felt that they only exposed their weakness by appearing there. And as to inducing John Bull to concede Repeal, they might as soon expect the wolf to give up its prey. (Hear, hear.) The Vice-Agitator then touched on a great variety of topics. Mr. O'Brien then contended that Mr. O'Connell had not lost his influence, but was now, as ever, the undisputed leader of the Irish people on the subject of Repeal. (Hear.) The Charitable Bequests Act, he admitted, had served as a diversion, and caused great division among the Irish people; but yet he trusted that the Irish people would not lose sight of Repeal. The Repeal rent must be kept up and collected, not upon some sudden impulse, but coolly, regularly, and systematically. He affirmed that there was no ground for desponding. The Repeal committee were, one and all, most sanguine on the subject. He did not want to get within the clutches of the Attorney-General—he was not ambitious of an indictment thirty yards long to be preferred against him; but he did aspire to see the day when Ireland would have an army of her own, to fight for the British empire, if necessary, but, at all events, for the liberties of Ireland.—The Repeal rent for the week was about £220.

A PARROT EXAMINED AS A WITNESS.—A very extraordinary instance of the examination of a parrot as a witness occurred a few days ago, at the College-green Police-office, Dublin, under the following circumstances:—Mr. Jones H. Davis, summoned Mr. Moore, for detaining a parrot, his property. Mr. E. Fullam appeared for the defendant.—The magistrate (Mr. Hitchcock) asked: Did you lose a parrot, and when?—Complainant: Yes, your worship, I lost a parrot, and a very good one too.—Mr. Fullam: The parrot is here, or at least outside the court.—Complainant: Then bring in the bird, and I'll engage I'll soon prove my case by his evidence. (Laughter.)—Mr. Hitchcock: If the bird is to be examined as a witness, he ought not to be in court; he must be subject to the rule of other witnesses. (Laughter.) Complainant: Never fear, your worship; he will not say a word except the truth. (Renewed laughter.)—Mr. Hitchcock: Well, go on, and let us hear your evidence, at any rate.—Mr. Davis said on Sunday evening, the 28th of April last, he lost the bird, and did not see it after that, until Friday evening last. (Here an immense cage, covered with cloth, was carried into the board room, amid a shout of laughter. The cage was placed in the dock.)—Witness: I will give up the whole matter if the parrot will not prove my case. He is my principal witness. (Roars of laughter.)—Mr. Fullam: And do you swear, Sir, that Mr. Moore stole him?—Witness: No, certainly not, for I don't think he did; but it may have been stolen by some person, and sold to Mr. Moore; I lost it, at all events; and it was either stolen or taken away, which comes to the same thing in the end, so far as I am concerned. The bird is now in court, and let me take him on my finger, and ask him two or three questions, and if he don't answer to my satisfaction and that of all present, I will give up the case. (Loud laughter.)—Mr. Fullam: Do you intend to have him sworn? If you do, I'd like to know on what book, as it is very likely he is a heathen or a Turk. (Laughter.)—A voice behind: Get him a Koran, then.—(Laughter.) In the middle of which the parrot commenced whistling, "Take your time, Miss Lucy," amid a scene of the most boisterous mirth.—Mr. Fullam: Let him be examined by you, and then I have a right to cross-examine him. (Laughter.) What words did you teach him?—Here the cage was uncovered, and the parrot stared about the board-room for some time, until Mr. Davis stepped over to him and said, "Come, old fellow, give me a kiss." The bird, which is a very pretty one, thrust its neck out and kissed Mr. Davis with great apparent fondness, whilst the bystanders were almost convulsed with laughter. A fat young fellow here came forward and said that the bird would do the same to any one in the room, and therefore it was no proof that he belonged to Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis said that the parrot would not kiss any one but himself, and cautioned the lad not to try the experiment; but the advice was unheeded, and the boy, stepping over to the cage, asked for a *buss* also. The bird looked at him for a moment, bristled up its feathers, stretched out its neck, and seized the boy by the lip, out of which it nearly took a mouthful before it could be loosened, and the shouts of the lad mingled with the laughter had a very excellent effect indeed. Mr. Davis requested any other gentleman who pleased to ask the parrot for a kiss, but the invitation was politely declined by the whole of the company. He again begged the favour of a salute from the bird, which was granted with affection, and then he appealed to the bench and the audience if the kind bird was not his property.—Mr. Hitchcock said the evidence was very strong in his favour certainly; but Mr. Fullam said that his client was by no means satisfied with the proof adduced on that point.—Mr. Davis: Very well (taking the bird out of the cage on the fore finger of his right hand), I will ask him a few questions now, and I think I will settle the matter. "Tell me, old fellow, what does the dog say?" The answer was a bow, wow, wow, so loud and musical that one would imagine the "Kildare hounds" had run a fox into the board room. When the laughter which followed had ceased, Mr. Davis again asked, "Well, what does the cat say?"—The parrot gave a sly glance round the room, and then commenced purring a little, after which he set up mewing, which forcibly reminded every person present of a congregated meeting of all the tom cats in the city.—Mr. Davis asked was there any more proof necessary? and Mr. Hitchcock said the evidence was quite conclusive, and he would order the bird to be returned to its original owner, Mr. Davis.—The parties then left the court, the parrot whistling "There's nae luck about the house," amid loud and continued laughter.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY TO MURDER ARCHBISHOP MURRAY.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Herald* asserts that there has been a conspiracy to murder the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Murray. The statement is to the effect, that on Sunday last, the Rev. Mr. O'Carroll ascended the pulpit in Westland-row Chapel, Dublin, and previous to his sermon observed that it was his most painful duty to inform the congregation that a conspiracy had been discovered in the county of Tipperary, which had for its object the murder of the Most Rev. Dr. Murray, Archbishop of Dublin. This extraordinary statement produced considerable excitement. The rev. gentleman proceeded to observe that the intelligence of this awful design was that morning communicated to their revered prelate by a magistrate of the county of Cork, calling upon him to go at once to Archbishop Murray, and apprise him that 'three devils' had determined to take his life. The magistrate enclosed the letter to Dr. Murray, by whom it was received on Sunday morning, and we must infer that his grace believed the contents to be true when he gave permission to the Rev. Mr. O'Carroll to allude to it in the pulpit." It is right to add that the Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* denies the truth of the statement, and several of the Dublin papers express their doubts of its authenticity.

FOUR CHILDREN DROWNED BY A WATER TORRENT, NEAR DUBLIN.—An appalling accident, attended with the loss of the lives of four children, took place on Saturday evening, at the hamlet of Knockmaroon, which lies contiguous to the southern and western boundary wall of the Phoenix Park, Dublin.

POSTSCRIPT.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO STOWE.—The preparations for the reception of her Majesty, upon her arrival at Buckingham, on Wednesday next, *en route* for Stowe, the seat of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, are fast approaching completion. On Thursday a notice, bearing the signature of the Mayor on the part of the corporation, was generally circulated in the borough, informing the inhabitants that, upon the arrival of the Royal *cortège* at the boundaries of Buckingham, it would be preceded through the town by a procession. The procession will form at the town-hall at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, after which hour the public thoroughfare for carriages and horsemen through the streets will be closed. The town will be universally illuminated on the night of the 13th, and on the evening of Thursday, the 16th, a grand display of fireworks will be given. On the evening of the 15th instant there will be a public dinner at the Cobham Arms Hotel, in honour of the Royal visit.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—On Thursday a special general meeting of the Eastern Counties Railway Company was held at the London Tavern; Mr. Rathbone in the chair. The report stated that the meeting had been summoned for the purpose of considering various extension lines. The most important extension line which the directors recommended to be promoted in the ensuing session was, that from Hertford, through Hitchin to Biggleswade, a distance of 25 miles. The estimated cost was £350,000, and it had been computed that the traffic on the extension, and the increased advantage to the main line, would produce an income exceeding 7 per cent. On the motion of Mr. Valentine Lee, the report was adopted, and resolutions were passed authorising the Directors to apply for powers to construct the deviation and extension lines recommended to the proprietors.

MEETING OF THE LEAGUE AT MANCHESTER.—On Wednesday night there was a meeting of the Corn Law League at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester. The room was not at all well filled. Mr. George Wilson was in the chair, and opened the proceedings in rather a subdued tone.—Mr. M. Phillips, M.P., declared that the League was not dead. He attributed all the prosperity of the manufacturing districts to the cheapness of food, and to no other cause.—Mr. W. Brown, or, as the chairman designated him, the *not defeated* candidate, but future representative of Lancaster, next addressed the meeting. He then read some extracts from an address delivered by Lord Chatham, and informed the meeting that his lordship was a free-trader, and had "actually reduced the duty on brandy 12s. a gallon."—The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. R. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. J. Brooks, Mr. Brotherton, M.P., &c. It was a flat affair altogether.

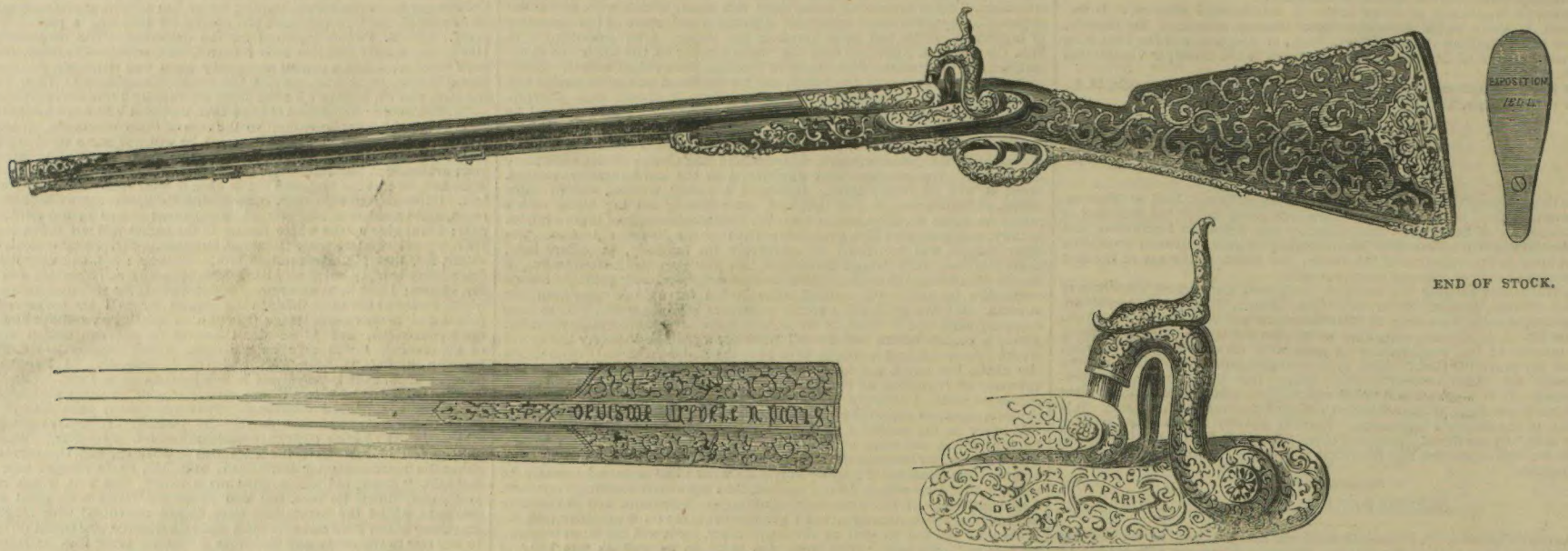
LAUNCH OF THE TERRIBLE.—Thursday the 23rd of the present month, is the day fixed for the launch of this magnificent vessel from the dockyard at Deptford.

Mr. Henry Wallack, the actor, and late lessee of Covent-garden Theatre, appeared in the Bankruptcy Court, on Thursday, and there being no opposition on the part of the creditors, received his final order.

LONDON AND BRIGHTON RAILWAY.—On Thursday a special general meeting of the proprietors of this company was held at the London terminus, Captain Kelly, R.N., in the chair, to submit for the approval of the proprietors three branch lines, proposed to be applied for in the ensuing session of Parliament. The report stated that the first branch would commence near the Three Bridges station, proceeding through Crawley to Horsham, the length eight miles and a half, and the estimated expense £94,035. The second branch to commence at Red-hill station, running through Reigate and Bletchingly, to Dorking, its length seven miles and three quarters. For this two alternative lines had been deposited, one avoiding Reigate altogether, and the other going through the centre of it; the estimate for the former being £102,364, and for the latter, £109,734. The third branch would commence at Croydon, run through Streatham and Tooting, and join the South Western at Wandsworth. A poll was demanded on the first resolution, for carrying out the proposed extensions, which resulted in a majority of 2,584 votes in its favour. The other resolutions for ratifying the agreement with the South Western, and empowering the directors to raise the necessary capital of £339,583 by the creation of new shares, were then carried.

DREADFUL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday last an explosion of fire-damp occurred at the Eagle's Bush colliery, near Swansea, belonging to G. Penrose, Esq., by which nine men were so dreadfully injured that very little hope is entertained of their recovery.

FOWLING-PIECE PRESENTED TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE FRENCH.



PLAN OF THE BARREL

THE LOCK.

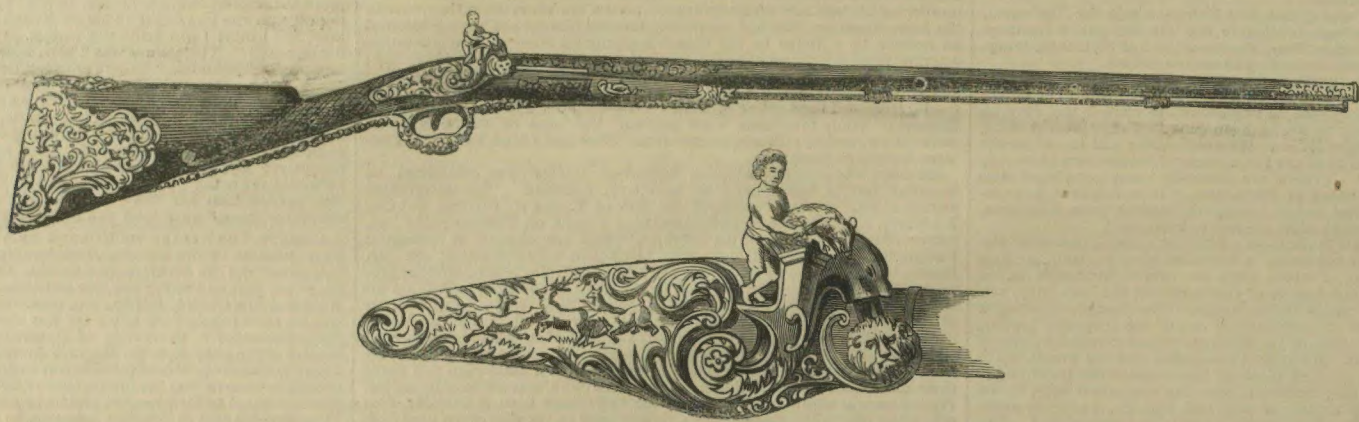
FOWLING-PIECES PRESENTED TO PRINCE ALBERT AND THE PRINCE OF WALES BY LOUIS PHILIPPE.

The piece presented by Louis Philippe to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, is a beautifully formed and well proportioned double-barrelled fowling piece. The mountings and fittings of the most superb and elegant character. The

stock is of ebony, exquisitely inlaid with silver, in an elegant arabesque foliated pattern of the most chaste design and beautiful finish. The locks, which are percussion, are composed of steel and silver, elaborately chased, and ornamented with antique foliage, surrounding a gold ribbon bearing the words, "Devisme à Paris." On the shoulder plate, the mountings of

which are carried considerably up the stock, and chased and pierced in a style of elegance corresponding with the other fittings, and which is altogether composed of solid silver, are the words, "Exposition, 1844." The trigger-guard, tips, &c., are also composed of silver, ornamented with figures and antique foliage. A shield bearing the royal crown, and the monogram

FOWLING PIECE PRESENTED TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE FRENCH.



THE LOCK.

of L. P. is placed on the lock-stock. The barrels are of grained steel, tipped at the breech and muzzle with gold arabesque foliage, and on the rib is the inscription "Devisme breveté à Paris." The length of the gun is 45½ inches, the barrel being 30.

That presented at the same time to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is not so elaborate in its ornaments, but of equal beauty in its design, and excellence in its workmanship. The stock is of walnut, mounted and fitted with silver. The lock is of silver, with the "death of the stag" on one side, and boar hunt on the other, in gold, surrounded by antique foliage, and beneath the hammer the words "Caron arq du Roi." The hammer is composed of a pedestal surmounting a scroll of foliage, upon which stands a boy, one arm resting on a dead boar, the other holding a dagger. The head of the hammer is a dolphin's head, the mouth of which serves as a receptacle for the nipple. The shoulder plate and mountings are of solid silver, in elegant foliage, upon which, on either side, is represented, in gold raised figures, a fox-hunt and birds. The trigger-guard and other fittings are appropriately

ornamented with gold baskets of fruit, heads of hares and oxes, pheasants, &c. The barrel is of grained steel, the breech and muzzle tipped with gold, in an extremely elegant foliated pattern, and having on the one side the legend "Caron arquer du Roi," and on the other, "Année 1844." The extreme length of the gun is 33 inches, the barrel 25 inches.

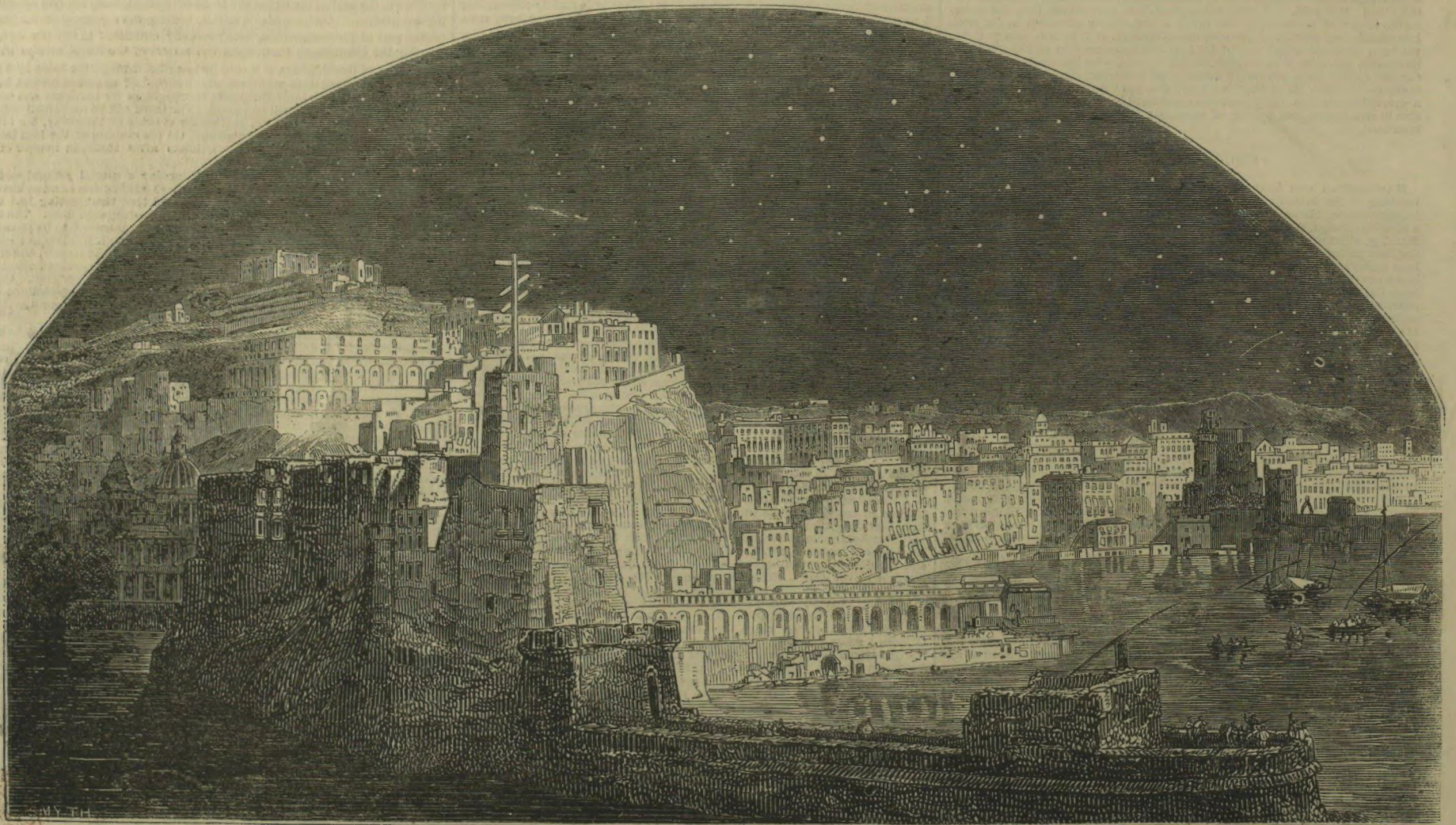
This elegant little gun has been tried by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and found to act with ease and precision.

NAPLES, BY MOONLIGHT.
(From Mr. Burford's New Panorama.)

Of this beautifully executed addition to the holiday sights of the metropolis, we gave a brief notice in our journal of Dec. 28. As a specimen of the novel effect which Mr. Burford has imparted to a locality somewhat familiar, however picturesque it may be, we have selected, to our thinking, the most meritorious portion of the painting.

We should premise that the present Panorama is an attempt to combine the various effects of moonlight and Vesuvius in eruption; when "ocean, earth, and sky, all reflecting the broad glare, a rich and gorgeous glow of crimson is thrown over the whole, which, strangely, but beautifully, mingling with the pale and quiet moonlight, form together a glorious, sublime, and extraordinary scene, awfully grand, but indescribably lovely."

The view is taken from the bay, immediately in front of the insulated rock, on which stands the Castle dell' Uovo; it consequently commands the entire of the two semicircular bays on which the city stands, and the thousands of objects of interest, of every period, by which it is surrounded. Towards the left is seen the long line of the Marino and Chiaja, behind which rise hill above hill, palace above palace, villas, vineyards, groves, and gardens, until the extreme heights are crowned by the frowning fort of St. Elmo, and the extensive and romantic Convent of S. Martino or Certosa. To the west stretches an extensive suburb, backed by hills and mountains of that rich purple colour peculiar to the country, thickly studded with towns, convents, and villas, until the hill and promontory of Pausilippo terminates the land



BURFORD'S NEW PANORAMA OF NAPLES BY MOONLIGHT.

Towards the right, the great bulk of the town presents the same mass of clustering buildings, the most commanding objects being the royal palace on Capo di Monte, and the Castle Nuovo, with the mole, the lighthouse, and the numerous vessels lying in the harbour; the whole backed by the long line of the Appenines, in some parts forming a graceful shadowy outline to the view, in others coming forth distinct, noble, and dark, the piles they really are.

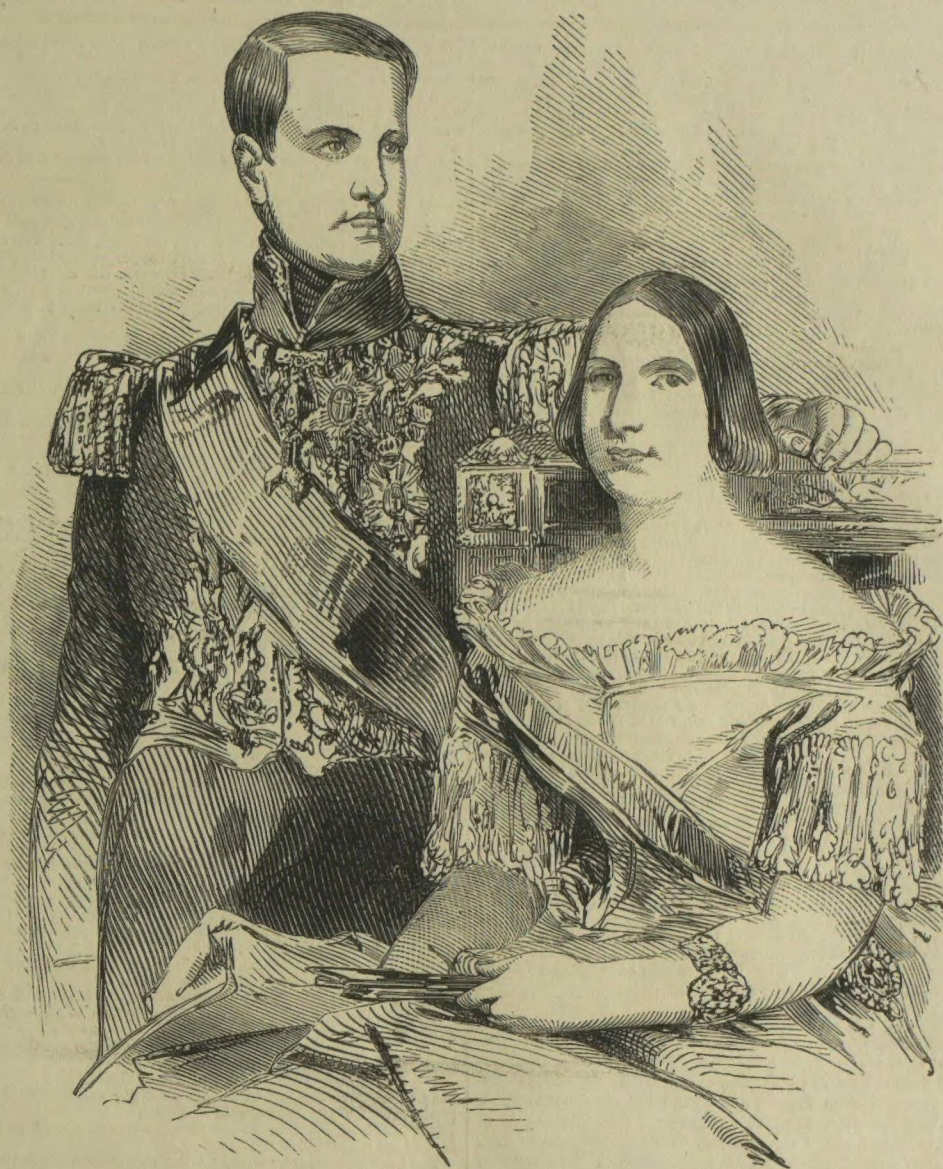
In our Engraving, the foreground shows the Castel dell' Uovo, and beyond it, the Royal Casino di Chiatamone; the dome immediately above is Le Crocelle de Chiatamone, in a line with the Soldiers' Garrison on Pizzo Falcone; the highest is the Castel dell' Uovo; to the right, the S. Martino Certosa; and further still, on the verge of the rock, the Pizzo Falcone. Immediately beneath is the royal treasury; and the darkened buildings in the distance, rising from the water's edge, are the great Hotel Cirella; Castel Nuovo; Santa Chiara (a large convent); and the Arsenal, and Royal Foundry; in front of which are the wet docks and basin for the King's barges. Altogether, this is a scene of unsurpassed beauty, exquisitely painted. "Vedi Napoli e poi mori," say the Italians, and, indeed, those who die without seeing it miss one of the most enchanting scenes the world contains.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF BRAZIL.

The empire of Brazil dates only from the year 1822, when it declared itself independent of Portugal, and elected the Prince Regent, Don Pedro, Emperor. That independence was acknowledged by Portugal in 1825. In 1831 Don Pedro, having become unpopular with his subjects, and having by the death of John VI. succeeded to the crown of Portugal, abdicated in favour of his son, Don Pedro II., the present Emperor, who ascended the throne while yet a minor. The residence of a royal family in Brazil has attached a great number of the inhabitants to their interests, who have strenuously opposed the democratic party. Repeated convulsions have shaken the republic of La Plata and Buenos Ayres, but Brazil has remained comparatively tranquil. For an account of these atrocities the reader is referred to an article in our present number.

The Emperor was married on the 4th of September, 1843, to Theresa Christina Maria, a Neapolitan Princess, whose portrait, with that of the Emperor, we here give. The Emperor's sister, Donna Francisca de Braganza, is married to the Prince de Joinville. The Royal families of Portugal, Brazil, Naples, and France, are thus closely united.

A MIDNIGHT ASCENT AT THAXTED CHURCH.—(From a Correspondent.)—In No. 107 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, wherein you gave a drawing of Thaxted church spire, with the scaffolding erected round it for the purposes of the trigonometrical survey, allusion is made to the daring feat of one of the Sappers and Miners, who climbed the outside of the spire before any scaffolding was up, and removed the fane alone. That exploit, it is considered, was far exceeded just as the present new year came in. There is a fine ring of eight bells in the tower of Thaxted Church, and it is always the custom to ring the old year out and the new one in. About twelve o'clock at night of the 31st ult., the ringers were so engaged when a rope broke, and a short young man named George Speller, who sells cakes and pies about the town, happening to be in the belfry with them, was asked to go up with a couple of others to assist in splicing the rope; he did so, and while there was suddenly missed, and it was supposed he was gone down. They continued their ringing, and concluded he was gone home. This, however, was not the case; he had got through the open window from the next story up the spire outside, and climbing from crocket to crocket, although at the time it was a dense fog, succeeded in reaching the summit, and after tying his blue neckerchief to the spindle of the fane, sat and sang a song. He says that while the bells were ringing he found the spire waver considerably to and fro—that coming down was worse than going up, and, to make amends, on descending he found he was on the contrary side, so that when he arrived at the bottom of the spire he was obliged to remount, having left his coat at the second window, and his shoes at the next above. There can be no doubt whatever of the truth of his statement, for no handkerchief was on the fane on the afternoon of New Year's-eve, and there it was to be seen flying the next morning, and there it is still.



THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF BRAZIL.

THE MURDER AT SALT-HILL.—THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH, AT SLOUGH.

An extraordinary instance of the working of the newly-applied power of electro-magnetism will be found in the details of the "Murder at Salt-Hill," in another portion of our journal. The eventful circumstance is of such interest as to induce us to submit to our readers a series of illustrations of the detailed means by which the intelligence of a suspected person being in a railway train, has been conveyed from Slough to the metropolis, after the train itself had started from the former place. The instrument of this important result is the Electro-Magnetic Telegraph on the Great Western Railway between Paddington and Slough, a distance of eighteen miles; by which any communication can be made from one point to the other in an almost inappreciable short space of time. To Professor Wheatstone and Mr. Cooke are we indebted for this valuable application of electro-magnetism;

they having made an entirely new arrangement of their telegraph, by which it has been greatly simplified, and possesses considerable advantage over the former one.

We have already adverted to the performances of this Telegraph, and have engraved the exterior of the station at Slough, in which the apparatus is

a Quaker was the last man who had been seen to leave the house, I proceeded to the Slough station, thinking it likely he might proceed to town by the railway. I saw him pass through the office, when I communicated my suspicions to Mr. Howell, the superintendent at the station. He left for London in a first-class carriage. Mr. Howell then sent off a full description of his person, by means of the electric telegraph, to cause him to be watched by the police upon his arrival at Paddington.

Mr. Howell, of the Slough station, deposed as follows:—The prisoner left for town last night by the 7.42 train. I despatched orders by the telegraph to have the prisoner watched on his arrival at Paddington. A few minutes afterwards an answer was returned, stating that the suspected party had arrived, and that Sergeant Williams had left the terminus in the same omnibus for the City.

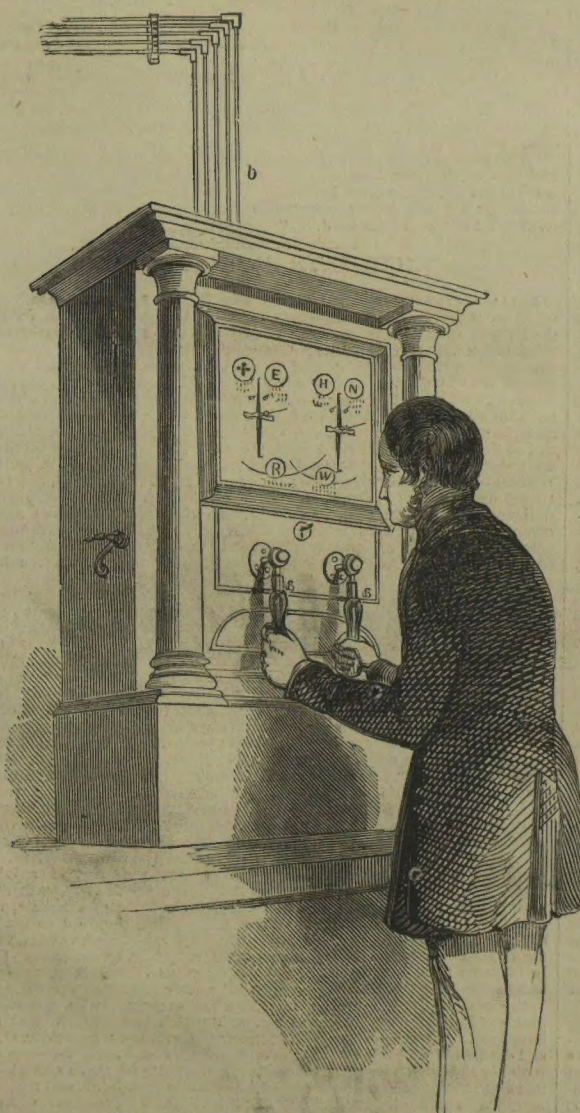
The words of the communication were precisely as follows:—

THE MESSAGE.

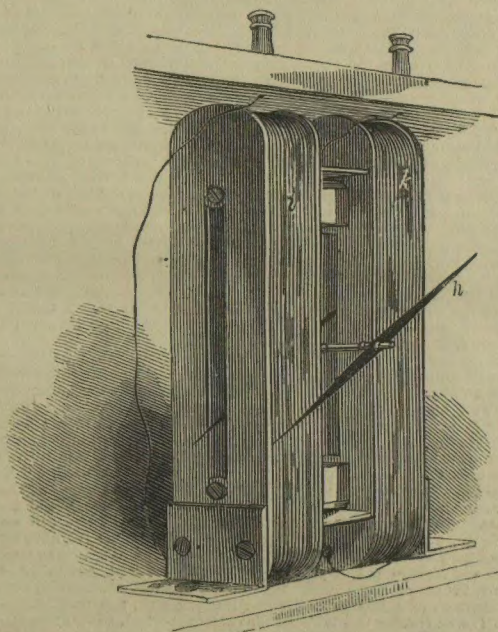
A murder has just been committed at Salt Hill, and the suspected murderer was seen to take a first-class ticket for London by the train which left Slough at 7h. 42m. p.m. He is in the garb of a Quaker, with a brown great coat on, which reaches nearly down to his feet; he is in the last compartment of the second first-class carriage.

THE REPLY.

The up-train has arrived; and a person answering, in every respect, the description given by telegraph came out of the compartment mentioned. pointed the man out to Sergeant Williams. The man got into a New-road omnibus, and Sergeant Williams into the same.



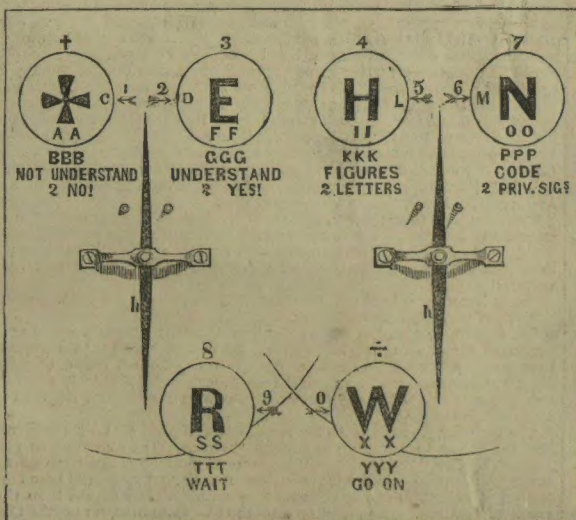
THE GREAT WESTERN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.



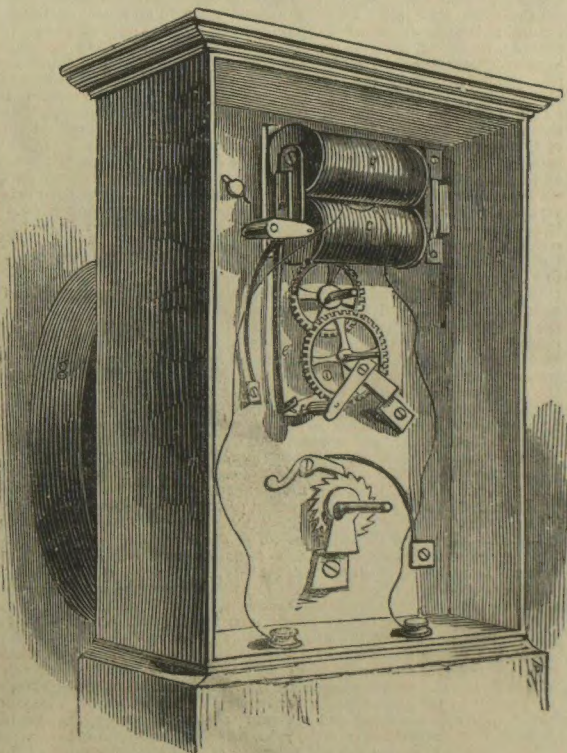
THE COILED MAGNETS.

worked. We shall now present to our readers the details of such apparatus; before which, however, we shall relate from the evidence on the Coroner's Inquest at Salt Hill, the steps which led to the successful employment of this novel means of communication.

The Rev. E. T. Champnes, vicar of Upton-cum-Chalvey, examined. Hearing of the suspicious death of the deceased, and that a person in the dress of



THE INDEX.



THE STRIKING APPARATUS.

The telegraphic apparatus consists of two wires suspended the length of the line, and attached at either end to the instrument, as seen in Fig. 1, and a branch wire from the instrument, attached to a large metallic surface, imbedded in the earth, for completing the electric circuit. The wire at Paddington is connected with the gas pipe, and that at Slough with the pump-engine. When the instrument is not in motion, the handles, *a a*, are down, as seen in Fig. 1, and the pointers remain in their vertical position. The handles are connected by an arrangement of pins and springs, with the battery and other wires.

The signals are given by two magnetic needles (see Fig. 2), or pointers, *A*, each suspended vertically on an axis passing through the dial. Behind the dial another pointer is fixed on each corresponding axis. A portion of the conducting-wire, many yards in length, is coiled (*k*) round the galvanometer frame, in which the magnet moves, so as to subject the magnet to the multiplied deflecting force of electric current. The motion of the pointers is limited by a fixed stop, or pin, at either side.

When a signal or communication is to be made, the operator, by turning the handle to the right or left, breaks the electric circuit, and presses the wire against pins connected with the battery poles; the coils of wire, *k*, then receiving their full deflective force, attract the magnetic needles, *A*, to either side, according to the course of the current; thus, if the stream of electricity first passes into the coil *k*, the upper point of the needle will be attracted towards it, viz. to the right; if the stream first passes into the coil *i*, then the needle will be attracted to the left, thus giving the whole motion necessary to the pointers. The movement of the handles and consequent deflection of the pointers at either end of the line are simultaneous, no noticeable period of time elapsing between the giving of the signal at one end, and its reception at the other.

The telegraph is so arranged as to give its communications, not by signs, but letters; every word being spelt, and each letter having a distinct motion of the pointer, as will be seen by reference to the dial (Fig. 3). It is divided into five circles, each containing a number of letters and signs: *h* *A* are the magnetic needles, or pointers, by which the various letters are indicated. The left-hand needle moving to the left twice gives *a*, three times *b*, once to the right and once to the left *c*, once to the left and once to the right *d*, once to the right and once to the left *e*, twice for *f*, three times for *g*, once to the right and once to the left for *h*, twice for *i*, three times for *k*, once to the right and once to the left for *l*, once to the left and once to the right for *m*, once to the right for *n*, twice for *o*, and three times for *p*. The remaining signs are made by the two needles working conjointly, so that the simultaneous movement of the two, once to the left indicates *r*, twice for *s*, three times for *t*, once to the right and once to the left for *u*, once to the right for *v*, twice for *x*, and three times for *y*. At the end of every word given, the left hand needle moving once to the right, to the cross, to indicate that the word is completed. If the word has been understood by the receiver of the communication, he moves the same pointer twice to the left, and twice to the right, indicating *yes*; if not understood then the needle points twice to the right and twice to the left, indicating *no*, when the original word is repeated. By doubling the motions for each letter (or rather numeral letters), figures are given.

Previous to giving a signal, the operator calls the attention of the attendant, at the distant station, by the ringing of a bell, which is accomplished by means of a very ingenious and simple apparatus (see Fig. 4); *c* *c* are two coils of wire, the ends of which, passing through the bottom of the frame, are attached to the general wires of communication; *d* is a piece of soft iron attached to the lever *e*, and held firmly against the pin *f*, thus, immediately the magnetic current is broken, the disturbed electricity attracts with magnetic influence the iron *d*, releases the pin *f*, and, consequently, by giving motion to the wheels, sets at liberty the striking hammer, which, acting upon the alarm bell *g*, gives the loud, clear ringing so necessary to attract instant notice.

The alarm is generally affixed to the top of the general signal apparatus (Fig. 1); but for the better explanation of its contrivance, we have removed the outer ornamental case.

It is well observed in the *Times* report of the inquest, that "had it not been for the efficient aid of the electric telegraph, both at Slough and Paddington, the greatest difficulty, as well as delay, would have occurred in the apprehension of the party now in custody."

THE MURDER AT SALT-HILL.

In our last we gave an account of the murder, by poison, of a married woman named Sarah Hart, which took place on the previous Wednesday, at the house where she resided, at Bath-place, Salt-hill, near Botham's Hotel. A coroner's inquest was held on Thursday (the 2nd inst.) at the Three Tuns, Salt-hill, before John Charsley, Esq., the coroner for Bucks. According to the evidence then produced, stifled screams had been heard to proceed from the residence of the deceased, who was found struggling in the agonies of death. Suspicion fell upon an elderly man named Tawell, who formerly belonged to the Society of Friends, as he had been last seen with the deceased. He left very suddenly for London, from the Slough station, but by means of a communication by the electrical telegraph, he was brought back and examined before the coroner. But little evidence was produced against him on the first occasion and the inquest was adjourned till Saturday last. In our late impression last week, we gave an analysis of the proceedings on that day, and now subjoin a full report of them. The first witness examined was,

Mr. Henry Montague Champneys, surgeon, of Slough, who deposed as follows:—On Wednesday evening, shortly before seven o'clock, I was sent for to attend the deceased in Bath-place, whom I was informed was in a dying state. I ran there immediately, when I found her lying on her back on the floor of her room, and her head raised on a pillow. Her clothes were half way up her legs, and her left stocking was down and torn. Her cap was lying by her side. Upon feeling her pulse I fancied I felt three beats, but these not being continued, I imagined I must have been mistaken. Her eyes at this time were fixed. She moved her tongue and jaw slightly, but only once. I placed my hand upon her heart, but I felt no pulsation. I then saw she was dead. After some minutes had elapsed I opened a vein, not with the idea of bringing her to life, but for the purpose of ascertaining if the state of her blood would enable me to form an opinion as to the cause of death. I then went to the Slough station, where I arrived at half-past seven o'clock, and where I saw the prisoner get into a first-class carriage, and leave for town. Mr. Howell, the superintendent at that station, at my suggestion, sent off a telegraphic communication to have the prisoner watched and traced upon his arrival at Paddington. Before I left the residence of the deceased to proceed to the station, a glass which contained a portion of pale beer, a porter bottle partly filled, and a bun, which I found on the table, I had placed on one side, in the care of Mrs. Ashlee, telling her to let no one touch them. I again went to the house at half-past nine o'clock the same evening, and, thinking they might contain some deleterious matter, I took them away with me for the purpose of ascertaining that fact, and they have been in my possession ever since. Upon smelling the mouth of the deceased I could not detect any poisonous odour. Upon viewing the body the next day I found no marks of external violence. I was then directed by the coroner to make a *post mortem* examination in conjunction with Mr. Norblad, who was then with me. When I opened the vein there was nothing unnatural in the appearance of the blood. Upon examining the brain we found nothing to account for the death. The heart was found to be perfectly healthy. There was an old adhesion of the right lung, and, with that exception, the lungs were in a perfectly healthy state. We found the whole of the abdominal viscera rather fat, but generally healthy. We removed the stomach and its contents for further examination, as I considered, thus far, that nothing of a suspicious nature had shown itself. The internal surface of the coat of the stomach had rather more mucus than usual. I was then ordered by the coroner to make a further examination, with Mr. Norblad, and the result is as follows:—Upon analyzing the contents of the stomach we found them to be generally acid. We tested them for various poisons, viz., for oxalic acid, sulphuric acid, and arsenic, but found none. We then tested them for those poisonous salts, antimony, lead, and copper, the presence of which we could not discover. They were then tested for prussic acid, and the results proved that poison to be present. It might not, however, have been prussic acid by itself, but that poison in conjunction with some salt nearly allied to it. I cannot say if we found sufficient prussic acid to have caused the death of the deceased, but I have every reason to believe that there was. I am of opinion there was sufficient to cause death. The appearance of the stomach would not assist me in forming an opinion if that poison were present. We could not detect the smell of prussic acid. We could not tell in what form the acid was administered, but I should think it was taken in a liquid state. I am of opinion the quantity found in the stomach would cause death rapidly. I am of opinion the deceased died from the effects of this poison. The porter found in the room of the deceased has not yet been analyzed. There has not been time to test it since the last examination. We have not been able to discover what salt, if any, was taken in conjunction with the prussic acid. The salts of this acid have not the pungent and peculiar odour of prussic acid itself. Salts of prussic acid would produce death, but I am not aware how quickly.

Examined by Mr. Williams on behalf of the prisoner.—The bottle containing the liquor I found on the table of the deceased was a common porter bottle. I smelt the breath of the deceased immediately after death, and there was no appearance of prussic acid. I know very little about the salts of prussic acid. Bitter almonds would cause a deposit of prussic acid. I cannot say what was the quantity of prussic acid we discovered, although I have said there was sufficient to cause death.

William Martin, gardener, of Salt-hill, stated, that he saw the deceased at a quarter-past six o'clock on Wednesday evening between her house and the Windmill Hotel. Witness asked her what she was running so fast for, when she said, "I have got a friend come in, and I have been for a little stout for him." She appeared well and in good spirits, and ran off again towards her home. Witness had not seen the prisoner before he was in custody.

Mr. Edward Weston Norblad, surgeon, of Slough, was examined, but his statement was a mere corroboration of the opinion of Mr. Champneys.

Catherine White, barmaid at the Windmill (Botham's) Hotel, stated, that on Wednesday evening (the night of the supposed murder), about half-past six o'clock, the deceased came to the bar, where she stayed about ten minutes, and bought a bottle of Guinness's stout. (The bottle found on the table at Bath-place was produced by Mr. Champneys, and identified as one of the same description which contained the stout sold by witness to the deceased.) The cork was not the same. Witness lent the deceased a cork-screw. (The one found in Bath-place produced and identified.) Deceased, who appeared very well, did not say why she fetched the stout.

Mrs. Ashlee, who resided next door to the deceased, stated, that there was an empty tumbler on the table in the room where she found the deceased, to whom some water was given out of it by Mrs. Burrett. (The glass, still containing the remains of the water, produced by Mr. Perkins.) The glass appears to be the same. Witness never saw the prisoner before Wednesday last, when he went to Mrs. Hart's.

Mrs. Burrett, residing within two doors of the deceased, examined.—When I was called in by Mrs. Ashlee, immediately after she had found the body on the floor, I saw on the table a black porter bottle, two glasses, and a portion of a bun. One glass was half full of porter, and the other appeared to have had some in it, but it was empty. This glass I rinsed out and gave deceased some water out of it. There was no particular smell in it. The water with which I rinsed it out I threw into the fireplace.

This was all the evidence adduced, and the inquest was then adjourned till Wednesday.

CONCLUSION OF THE INQUEST AND COMMITTAL OF TAWELL FOR MURDER.

On Wednesday morning the inquest upon the deceased woman was held at the Three Tuns, Salt-hill, before J. Charsley, Esq. The interest excited by the proceedings had not at all abated, the jury-room being intensely crowded during the whole of the proceedings, while the road leading to the tavern was occupied by a number of persons anxious to catch a glimpse of the prisoner, J. Tawell, who was brought up from Eton in a fly, in custody of a constable.

Mr. M. Chambers and Mr. Williams attended for the prisoner, who was detained in a private room until the jury were prepared to deliver their verdict.

At ten o'clock the court was opened with the usual formalities, and the jury having all answered to their names, Mr. Norblad was called, and, in answer to questions from the Coroner, said, I am a surgeon residing near Slough. I, in conjunction with Mr. Champneys, surgeon, have analysed the contents of a bottle and glass found in the house of the deceased. The bottle was about half full of porter. There was no particle of poison whatever in it. The bottle was delivered to me by Mr. Champneys. It contained no poison of any description. I have also analysed the liquid in the glass, which was given to me by Mr. Champneys, and that contains no poison. I have reserved the results of these analyses. They are in the possession of Mr. Champneys.

By Mr. Chambers.—Mr. Cooper, an eminent chemist in London, was with us when the analysis was made. He fully agreed with me that there was no poison either in the bottle or glass. The analysis took place in London.

By the Coroner.—The manipulation was principally conducted by Mr. Cooper; but from my own knowledge and experience I can take upon myself to say that there was no poison in the bottle or the glass.

Mr. H. Montague Champneys, surgeon of Salt-hill, gave precisely similar evidence as to the result of the analyses; and in answer to Mr. Chambers, said, Mr. Cooper, in his presence, applied tests to the porter which would have shown the presence of several poisons. In the whole of his experience he had never heard that the elements of prussic acid were to be found in porter, nor in that beverage which was made in London. He had been in the profession since July, 1835, and when a student had attended lectures upon chemistry, and he then occasionally manipulated himself, but more frequently saw it done by the lecturer. In the present case the whole of the tests were applied by Mr. Cooper, in his own laboratory in London. He was not aware that the presence of prussic acid in all bodies had been proved; but was quite aware that it might be evolved by animal decomposition, that, in fact, it was to be found in bodies without its having been taken or administered in the shape of poison. Was aware that prussic acid was first discovered by Scheel, about 1800. Mr. Cooper did not decompose the beer into its elements; they distilled it, and applied the tests to the distilled liquid.

Mrs. Burrett was next called, merely for the purpose of signing the depositions given by her at a former examination.

Mr. Norblad recalled.—There was a bun also found in the deceased's room. The bun was subjected to the same analysis as the liquid. There was no poison found in it.

Mr. Champneys stated that he found the bun on the table in deceased's room. On analysis it was clear there was no poison found in it.

The Coroner.—There was no further evidence to be adduced on the part of the Crown. He did not know whether the prisoner had any witnesses to produce: if he had, they would be heard.

Mr. M. Chambers trusted the Coroner would allow him to make a few observations on behalf of the prisoner.

The Coroner.—It is contrary to the rule of the court to allow counsel to make speeches in defence of an accused party; they are allowed to attend and watch the proceedings, to cross-examine witnesses, and produce what evidence they think proper; but counsel are not allowed to make speeches to influence the minds of the jury. The case on the part of the Crown is closed—it is for you to say now whether you call any witnesses on the part of the defendant.

Mr. Chambers said there was no person who at present could properly be described as defendant. The court was one simply for the purpose of inquiry generally, and not for inquiring as to the guilt or innocence of any particular person. The Coroner's duty was to inquire into the cause of the death of one of the Queen's subjects, and not to inquire into any charge which might be brought against any particular person. Therefore, he appeared before the court, by the Coroner's permission, as the advocate of a person who had been taken into custody, and it was to be presumed it was for some offence connected with the death of the person who was the subject of this inquiry. He had been permitted by the courtesy of the Coroner to appear there as advocate to watch the proceedings on behalf of his client; but before he retired from the Coroner's presence, he wished distinctly to understand to what extent he was to be permitted to carry his professional exertions—whether he was to be limited only as to the cross-examination of witnesses? He understood the Coroner to say that he had no right to be heard, except in comment upon the evidence given that day to the jury; but if he was to be confined in his observations to that limit he thought he should be doing more injury than good to his client by such advocacy. He would, however, wish to be heard, not in defence of any particular party, but to suggest to the consideration of the court and the jury that, on the evidence as it stood, there was so much doubt with regard to any individual, that—

The Coroner.—I must interrupt you. You are now doing the very thing which you said you would ask permission to do. I hope I shall give a fair and upright charge to the jury, but I cannot permit you to direct them.

Mr. Chambers.—Nothing could be more improper than for an advocate to abuse the limited privilege which was permitted to him, and he was glad that he had been interrupted. If the Coroner told him, he would at once sit down, but it seemed to him that the case was one involved in great mystery and doubt.

The Coroner.—Are there any witnesses for the defendant?

Mr. Chambers.—Not any, sir, and forgive me for again deprecating the use of the word defendant. I do not think I should be properly performing my duty were I to look upon the present as any charge against my client.

The Coroner then proceeded to read his summing up from a paper which he held in his hand. He begged the jury to give the verdict in accordance with the evidence, and with the evidence only. There was no direct evidence as to the administration of any poison to the deceased, but there was indirect evidence sufficient to enable them to form an opinion. There were the means found in the deceased's house by which poison might have been administered to her without her knowledge, and that she had swallowed poison was evident. Although it was possible that she might have swallowed the poison knowingly herself, still it was very improbable. She was seen by White and Marlow at half-past six in the evening, and in good spirits. The next account they had of her was from Mrs. Ashlee, who, between six and seven o'clock, heard deceased's stifled screams, and on running out met John Tawell coming from deceased's cottage, and asked what was the matter with her neighbour, but could get no reply. Now, it was most important to consider why a man should have left her in the agonies of death without giving any alarm. It was evident that the poison had been administered after the stout had been fetched, and that the poison was quick and most deadly in its effects. With regard to the evidence affecting the prisoner, Mrs. Ashlee saw the Quaker-looking person coming from the door while deceased was dying, and she identified Tawell as that person. It was an important fact, that on the Monday when the prisoner was with deceased, Keziah Harding had heard him ask her if she would be alone the next time he called, on the Wednesday or Thursday. They should also recollect that a description of the Quaker had been forwarded by the telegraph to London, and that by the description he had been followed and arrested, and that when arrested he said he had not been at Slough the day before. There was no direct evidence to show who had administered the poison; but circumstantial evidence, in many cases, was of much greater cogency. If they had any doubt as to the guilt of John Tawell, they would give him the benefit of that doubt; but if they had no moral doubt as to his guilt—if the evidence laid before them, and the fair conclusions which they would draw from it, satisfied their own consciences that guilt attached to him, they would find a verdict accordingly, and without any regard to the station in life of the accused. It was but fair that they should consider their verdict was not final, and that if it were against the accused, he would have the benefit of a strict and impartial investigation elsewhere.

The room was then cleared, and the jury remained in consultation three quarters of an hour, when the prisoner, together with his counsel and solicitor, were called in, and informed that a verdict of "Wilful Murder against John Tawell, for poisoning Sarah Hart with prussic acid" had been returned.

The prisoner heard the verdict without any apparent emotion.

As the Court were about to rise,

Mr. Chambers renewed his application that the property found upon the person of the prisoner might be given up to him now that the inquiry was over, and the Coroner's duty to all intents and purposes ended, especially as he (Mr. Chambers) could now positively assert, and not merely assume, that that property had nothing whatever to do with the offence imputed to the unfortunate man.

The Coroner, in answer to the application, replied that he could not say that the money had nothing to do with the case. The amount was very important, and he thought it would be more advisable for another Court to see the money. He could not give up the money, but he would take care that the officers should not dissipate it; they would merely detain it in the character of trustees. The prisoner would not be damned, for he (the Coroner) understood he was a man of property.

Mr. Chambers.—The watch?

The Coroner.—I cannot let the watch be given up either.

Mr. Chambers.—You stated at the last examination that there might be something material connected with the money, inasmuch as you had re-

ceived other information of considerable importance. Now that could not be the case; because, if it had been, the information ought to be produced.

The Coroner would not say that it was not important now, from information he had received.

Mr. Chambers protested against any information being kept back.

The Coroner said he had kept back no information. He had heard no evidence except in Court. He had employed an officer to investigate the case. What that officer had reported to him could not be evidence as the witnesses were not present, and if it could be received it was merely corroborative of evidence already taken, and would not enlighten the minds of the jury.

The prisoner was then committed under the Coroner's warrant to Aylesbury gaol, to take his trial at the next assizes for the murder of the deceased.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS RESPECTING THE ACCUSED.

The following is a correct description of the prisoner:—He is about five feet six inches in height, sixty-one years of age, with a small, narrow face and light hair, rather inclining to a grey colour. He has no whiskers; his person is rather thin. He has a trifling squint in his left eye, the pupil inclining towards his nose. He is attired in the garb of a Quaker, wearing a broad-brimmed hat, black waistcoat, dark olive-coloured trousers, white cravat, and a loose great coat. He is somewhat quick and rapid in his manner, and appears to be a man of considerable intelligence.

Some years ago, the prisoner was tried and found guilty of forgery, and sentenced to be transported for twenty-one years. The forgery was committed upon a relation of Mr. Smith, one of the partners in the Uxbridge Bank. His good conduct, while in the colony, obtained for him a ticket of leave, after having served seven years of his time.

He then set up in business at Sydney, as a chemist and druggist, and embarked generally in the shipping trade, in which he was so exceedingly successful, that in the course of a few years he had saved upwards of £20,000, some persons have reported £60,000.

As soon as the crime of forgery, in this country, had been clearly established against him, he was discarded by the Society of Friends, and no longer acknowledged to be a member of that body. Upon his return to England from Botany Bay, between six and seven years ago, he applied to the Society to be again admitted amongst them, which was peremptorily refused. He then went to live at Croydon, where he resided but a very short time. Thence he went to Berkhamstead, where, about four years ago, he married a highly respectable widow, a Quakeress, named Cutforth. This lady kept a ladies' school at the time of her marriage, but this extensive establishment was given up immediately after her union with Mr. Tawell, who lived with his wife and family in a spacious house nearly opposite the church, at Berkhamstead, in very good style. He had two sons and a daughter by his first wife. Both the sons have died within the last five years. The daughter, a girl about 17 years of age, resided with her father and stepmother, at Berkhamstead. A child is the fruit of his last marriage, which is now about eighteen months old.

The distressing intelligence of the apprehension of her husband was only communicated to Mrs. Tawell through the medium of the London papers.

It has been stated that the eldest child of the deceased, Sarah Hart, a boy about five years of age, bears a close resemblance to the prisoner. From circumstances which have transpired since the first examination of the prisoner before the Coroner's Jury, there is said to be little doubt that he is the father of both the children of his former servant. He was always known at the different lodgings occupied by the deceased as Mr. Talbot.

Mr. Tawell is well known in the city, and said to be engaged to some extent in the shipping trade and exportation of goods abroad. He is a subscriber to the Hall of Commerce, the Jerusalem Coffee House, and other public mercantile establishments.

At one time Tawell kept a splendid establishment in Regent's-park.

The unfortunate female whose death he is suspected of having caused was a very superior person for one in her station in society, and was allowed by him to act as mistress of the house. Shortly before his second marriage the deceased was induced to quit his establishment, he engaging to settle a liberal weekly allowance on her. He is very partial to the study of natural history, and at his house at Berkhamstead there are many rare and valuable specimens. His furniture is said to combine, in a remarkable degree, the attributes of elegance and simplicity. He kept up to the last six servants; and so late as four days before the melancholy affair at Salt-hill took place, he was driving through London in a handsome cabriolet, drawn by two horses, when he invited some of his friends to spend a few days with him at his residence in the country. Though he had never been received a second time into communion with the Friends, he was much respected by many of their number. He had the reputation of being, not only an intelligent and scientific, but a very philanthropic man; and it is certain that he expended large sums in charitable and benevolent objects.

At his trial for the forgery he conducted his own case, and made a very long and able speech in his defence. On a verdict of guilty being returned, he craved permission shortly to address the court. Permission was granted, and having had reason to believe that his sentence would be seven years' imprisonment to the hulks—a belief in which it afterwards transpired he was quite correct—he begged to intimate to the judge that, rather than endure the degradation for seven years of working as a slave, he would prefer fourteen years' transportation to New South Wales. Thither he was accordingly sent; and having by his good conduct in a few years obtained his ticket of liberty, he commenced business as a druggist, as above stated. He returned to this country, and after remaining here for some months, proceeded a second time, now as a free man, to New South Wales. After remaining for some years more in that colony, he determined on returning to England, here to settle for life.

The funeral of the late unfortunate Sarah Hart, took place on Thursday afternoon; the mournful procession leaving Bath-place, at a quarter past two o'clock for the village churchyard of Farnham Royal, in which parish the lamentable event occurred.

The following is a copy of the only document found amongst the papers of the deceased, in the handwriting of the accused, signed with his initials, and written in a small, neat hand:—

"See Genesis, 4th chapter, and part of 7th verse; Psalms, 1st chapter and 4th chapter, 2nd to 5th verses; and 103rd chapter, and 107th chapter, 6th to 22nd verses; Isaiah, 1st chapter, 15th to 19th verses; Matthew, 6th chapter, 14th and 15th verses, and 31st to 33rd verses; Romans, 12th chapter; Ephesians, 4th and 5th chapters.

"The word *men* is generally used, but the sense is meant for both men and women, because *women* could not be properly put; and we must, in reading the Scriptures, not expect to be satisfied with so doing, unless we endeavour to seek in our own minds for that spirit in which they were written for our instruction.—J. T."

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND DOVER RAILWAY.—On Tuesday night an inquest was held in Guy's Hospital, before Mr. Joseph Payne, on the body of Charles Meaden, aged twenty-five, late a guard in the service of the London and Dover Railway Company. Thomas Slater, of Ashford, an engine driver on the London and Dover Railway, said that he knew the deceased, who was in the same employ as guard. On Christmas-day, about five p.m., he was at the New Cross station, going out with a train, when he gave the usual whistle, and then looked round to see that the carriages were all right; whilst doing so, he saw something fall, about three yards from the end of the platform. He reversed his engine and put down the break, and, on going back, found it to be the deceased, who was lying on the slope. Witness having procured another guard, proceeded to Ashford, and the deceased was removed to Guy's Hospital. Mr. Andrew Davies, house-surgeon, said deceased was brought in on Christmas-day, suffering from a severe compound comminuted fracture of the right fore arm. His arm was amputated a few hours after his admission by Mr. Calloway. He died on Monday morning from irritation and exhaustion consequent on the injury. Verdict of "Accidental death."

MELANCHOLY RELIGIOUS ENTHUSIASM.—A handsome young woman, named Jessie McKenzie, only 19 years of age, the daughter of highly respectable parents, was last week conveyed to Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, a confirmed maniac, under the most distressing circumstances. For many months past the young woman has devoted herself to the reading of the Scriptures, and had become extremely melancholy; while in this state she committed an act of self-mutilation almost unparalleled. The unfortunate lunatic was at the time lying in bed, her mother and aunt being in the same room. Suddenly the relatives were horror-struck by perceiving a human eye lying at their feet. The mother ran to her daughter, and was appalled at perceiving that she had torn her right eye completely out of its socket. The young woman, who betrayed no agony, said our Saviour had whispered to her the words, "If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out," and she considered she was only fulfilling her Divine Master's will by doing so. The poor creature afterwards became much worse, and it was found necessary to remove her to Bethlehem Hospital. From this place she was discharged as incurable, and Sir Peter Laurie then procured her admission into the County Lunatic Asylum.

SUICIDE AT WATERLOO BRIDGE.—On Monday morning, as a labourer named John Caroline was passing along the banks of the Thames, he discovered lying near the third arch of Waterloo-bridge, the body of a female, named Emily Ashburnham. The deceased was immediately removed to the vaults of St. John's Church, where it was found that life, although extinct, had not been so for any lengthened period, as the body was quite warm. On her left side was a dreadful wound, apparently caused by striking against the buttresses of the bridge in her descent. A young female named Sarah Page, in the course of the morning, identified the deceased, who, she said, had been residing since Friday last at No. 5, Buckle's-buildings, in that neighbourhood. She also informed Anderson, the coroner's constable, that she and deceased had been drinking over night to excess, and that she parted with her in the vicinity of the Strand at a quarter past three o'clock in the morning, at which time the deceased was greatly inebriated, and was in company with another female and a young man. On Thursday Mr. Carter held an inquest at the Waterloo Tavern, Waterloo-road, on the body. Julia Myer stated that she had seen the deceased, who was an unfortunate girl, on the previous Saturday. Witness was her sister. She lately passed as Emily Ashburnham, and resided at Barclay-street, Clarendon-square. Witness identified the body, which she had seen at the church. Mrs. Anderson, wife of

one of the parish bea dles, described the state of the body when it was discovered. A latch key and some duplicates were the only articles found on her. Anderson, the beadle, was next examined, and corroborated the last witness's evidence. Mr. Sewell, surgeon, was first called in to examine the deceased, but, in consequence of the death of his wife, he was obliged to relinquish attendance, and Mr. Avis, parish doctor, was sent for. There was a wound discovered on the right side of deceased, about four inches in depth. Other witnesses were examined, but none gave any conclusive testimony as to the cause of death; and Mr. Avis, the surgeon, not being in attendance, the proceedings were adjourned to Monday next.

STRANGULATION BY MACHINERY.—On Monday Mr. Baker held an inquest at the York Minster, Bunhill-row, St. Luke's, on the body of William Laurence, aged 18, employed by Mr. Martin, paper glazer and embosser, of Old-street, whose factory is in Bunhill-row. On the previous Friday evening, as proved in evidence, deceased was about to glaze some paper at a one-horse power steam-engine, and was passing a proof sheet beneath its rollers, one of which is of hollowed brass, heated by a red-hot round bar of iron, in the manner of a tea-urn. He wore at the time a neckerchief, tied sailor-like, with the ends depending loosely, and long. The sheet of paper he was trying, missing its bite, slipped, and as he stooped to catch it, the ends of his neckcloth got beneath the brass roller, and he was drawn in with his neck and side-face tightly fixed against it. He cried out "Stop the engine," and two fellow workmen, hearing the appeal he made, hurried to his assistance, and did so. They then unscrewed the roller, and extricated deceased. He sighed heavily once or twice, and expired. Mr. John Mather, a neighbouring surgeon, having been sent for, pronounced the cause of death to be strangulation, and accounted for its suddenness through the close contact of deceased's visage with the heated roller. Had it been cool, since he was so expeditiously extricated, he might not have been strangled. Verdict, "Accidental death."

ACCUSATION OF MURDER COMMITTED EIGHT YEARS AGO.—The village of Ruislip, Middlesex, has been greatly excited by the supposed discovery of the murderer of John Brill, a young man, who was found murdered in a wood, near Ruislip, in February, 1837, under circumstances that have not been elucidated. The person now accused is a man named Lamb, a prisoner in Coldbath Fields Prison, where he was committed for poaching. His accuser is another poacher, named Sibley, who says that Lamb told him he had murdered Brill in the wood. A communication to that effect was made by Mr. Chesterton, the governor of the prison, to the Uxbridge magistrates, and Sir W. Wiseman and Mr. Dagnell went to the Coldbath Fields House of Correction to take the deposition of Sibley, who adhered to his statement, though he evidently expected to gain some advantage by giving evidence. Application was then made to Sir James Graham to have Lamb removed to Uxbridge, to facilitate the further investigation of the case, but the request has been refused. The Uxbridge magistrates have examined several persons who were acquainted with the circumstances of the discovery of the body, for the purpose of guiding further inquiry into the matter.

DISCOVERY OF THE BODY OF A CHILD IN THE TRUNK OF A TREE.—On Tuesday, between twelve and one o'clock, the body of a new-born child was conveyed by the police to the St. Pancras workhouse, having been discovered near Highgate that morning under the following singular circumstances.—A number of boys had gone into the fields near the Highgate Cemetery, and some of them proceeded to climb an old tree, situate between Swain's-lane, leading to the cemetery, and the upper part of Maiden-lane. Whilst thus engaged one of the boys got into the hollow formed in the tree's trunk, and whilst there felt, as he thought, something move beneath his feet. He put his hand to the bottom to feel what the substance was, and pulled up a black bundle, which, on being opened, was found to contain the body of a child wrapped up in an old black stuff apron. The body was somewhat decomposed, but it is stated that the head is much bruised, and there are marks of violence on its person, which leave little doubt it has been murdered, and then secreted in the hollow of the tree where it was found.

EXTRAORDINARY SUICIDE.—On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. Baker, on the body of John Poole, aged 19, a shoemaker, at West Hackney, who destroyed himself by taking fifteen crude opium pills, of about five grains each, one of which was sufficient to cause death. He appears to have done the deed very coolly, having purchased the drug and made up the pills himself. His mother stated that he was low-spirited on account of the marriage of a cousin of his, upon whom he appears to have fixed his affections. The verdict of the jury was, "Destroyed himself by a dose of opium, but in what state of mind he was at the time there is no evidence to show."

MYSTERIOUS SUICIDE NEAR FARNHAM.—Considerable excitement prevailed at Farnham last week, in consequence of a young woman, named Sarah Hill, having been found drowned, and a report was spread abroad that a young man, named Rogers, with whom she had "kept company," had been instrumental in her death. Rogers was accordingly taken into custody. An inquest has since been held at the Plough public-house; but, although a good deal of evidence was taken, nothing was elicited to show what motive had induced the poor girl to commit suicide, if, indeed, she had drowned herself, or to attach any suspicion to the conduct of Rogers. The jury were consequently obliged to return a verdict of "Found drowned," and the young man was discharged.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday, at the Manchester Infirmary, an inquest was held on view of the body of Nathaniel Horsfall, labourer, thirty-three years of age. The deceased had been in the employment of the Manchester, Bury, and Rossendale Railway Company, and in the afternoon of Saturday, the 28th ult., whilst disengaging a horse which was drawing three waggons loaded with earth, he fell across one of the rails, and a wheel of the first waggon caught his right arm. In that state he was pushed about four yards along an inclined plane, and received a compound fracture of the arm, and contusion of the neck and chest. He was conveyed to the infirmary, where amputation was performed, but he died on Saturday morning last. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Let people with more bile than brains cavil at the expression as much as they please, but "merry England" is a good phrase, and an appropriate, nevertheless; that is to say, in reference to Young England. When sanguine Mary and saturnine Oliver ruled the roast, it was quite another affair. True, John Bull does not make pleasure a business, like Jack Frenchman; yet neither is it all work with him, as all play with his neighbour. We are now speaking of the popular propensity—of the habits and tendencies of the productive classes—called "inferior to these who satirise reason and common sense." The bulk of the natives of these islands known as Great Britain is as right-hearted and as light-hearted a sample of God's creatures as can be found upon this planet. If it were not so, the face of society among us would be such as fashion wears at funerals. We are left almost wholly without public games and spectacles, a fact which speaks more eloquently for the confidence reposed in the national character than any of such general application. Let the Government of France neglect its political merry-makings: deprive Paris for a year of her public fêtes, her executive festivals, her legislative feasts and junketings, and all shall be fire and sword from Bayonne to Brussels, from Normandy to Provence. From the earliest annals of civilisation, it has been a part of the social scheme to promote the political health of communities by periodical associations for purposes of relaxation and enjoyment. At this hour there is scarce a Government in Europe that ventures to neglect this great sanatory measure—save our own. Here, in the matter of blue devils the patient must minister to himself, or be ministered to by private charity or individual munificence. And in such wise, right goodly is the provision made for such as cannot help themselves. Beyond all others the patrons of the turf cater most for the body pleasure-wanting. It may be that race-courses might be more moral than they are. Of a verity, those who cultivate them as sources of profit and livelihood, cannot be more the reverse of virtuous. But then, since the world began, there was license for cakes and ale. The days of mirth and innocence have not quite departed, though the groves of Eden have vanished now so long. But one cannot expect that youths who follow stock-broking should handle a crook rather than a jockey whip, or eschew the Crown and Anchor, or the judge and jury book, to cultivate the rural *sub legimine fegi*. For this reason we think well of the Surrey Downs, and the royal heath adjoining "Sunning-hill, and hall the prospects for their future anniversaries as welcome attendants of the new year.

This peroration is indebted for existence to the effect produced by the appearance of the first sheet calendar of the season, published on Wednesday last. In it were enumerated various engagements of a kind to be given for various meetings of an extent "hitherto unprecedented," as one might say. To begin with the beginning, there is a new handicap set up for the Craven meeting at Newmarket, in April next. Now this is good of itself, as also in the capacity of an omen. It augurs that the exclusive system is on the wane there, for there is no device in racing so unattractive as your handicap: wherein Joan is as good as my lady; your drake that will go at all, as excellent as the lincal descendant of the mares of the prophet. To this succeeds engagements for the years 1845, 1847, and 1848—successions full of promise. The Doncaster demonstrations are right excellent; the Champagnes have fifty-two subscribers; the Two-year-old Stakes, for the last day, forty-seven; while the nominations for next year's Legger are 153; a third more than in the present. Taking precedence, however, of these events in instant interest is the Chester Cup—the greatest spring speed trial of the flag: it has a nomination of 1,33, comprising good, bad, and indifferent; some courses of merit, and a host of factors and hobnails. Among the entries are Lattan, and Zamoni—light, once upon a time, Macabreus. If the former be named by Mr. John Bull, they will probably stick it on him to a considerable time, as a burden to the song with regard to Macabreus, the handicapper will very likely bear in mind his having been running Klein, and that some of his party deserve a noose. The Chester Cup will be a great "sporting race," as they miscall heavy betting events: for the last year it has been, one cannot deny, an issue of considerable interest; but very little principle.

The *Hamburg Correspondent* publishes the contents of the will of the late Solomon Heine, the celebrated Jewish banker of that city. He bequeathed a sum of £140,000 British to be divided amongst different charitable establishments at Hamburg, and he left to each of his clerks £60 British for each year of service; £40,000 to each of his three sons-in-law; and to his son, his residuary legatee, a property equivalent to £600,000 British.

A LIVELY COMMENT UPON THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

There is occasionally a touch of drollery in public affairs, even at their most dense season of dullness; and a recent may be gathered from the tit-bits of journalism, by which spirits inclined for sport may make them entertaining in spite of their lead. In glancing over the public occurrences of the current week—as well as at the touches of anecdote and character which have been sub-editorially thrown in to lighten the columns of our contemporaries—we have been struck by some incitements to pleasantry, which we willingly re-register in "other form and pressure" to woo the smiles or laughter of our readers. They form gossip—mere gossip; but they are pabulum for the curious, for they affect the "things that be."

We have always had, from time to time, goodish things from the United States—absences of mind, possible impossibilities, and so forth—but since the election of "Polk," the dance of humour seems to have grown riotous, and has polked (or poked) its fun into the departments of justice and severer law. We have seen nothing better than the following account of a New York Court Martial, which we lyricise for the benefit of Musical Society:—

THE AMERICAN COLONEL AND HIS SWORD.

A Yankee-land Colonel, a regular brick,
Who would fight if you asked him through thin and through thick,
But whom—a true Yankee—nor drilling nor pay
Could get him to make up his mind to "obey;"
Got his General's orders in words loud and few,
"Do this, sir," and answered, "Be shot if I do."

The wrath of the General was not denied,
The army was scandalised—Colonel was tried;
And the Court Martial's sentence recorded as thus,
With proper parade, palaver, and fuss:
"For refusal of orders and choleric word,
For one month, Colonel Bounceful, must give up his sword."

Then up got the Colonel—"I cannot resign,
Please the Court, and the President, what isn't mine.
I've no sword of own—but, when great days require one,
I go to old Barber, the goldsmith, and hire one.
Who's known me a good many summers and so,
Let's me have it, good fellow, uncommonly low!
And I now make no doubt if the Court holds its word,
And insists, for one month, upon having the sword,
That by going to Barber, and stating the case,
From hard cash in hand he'll not right about face,
But will take the Court's visit as perfectly seasonable,
And let it to them on terms equally reasonable!"

This mode of keeping up discipline in the army is of a piece with the duels in the senate—the bowie-knife in the forum, and the lynch law everywhere; but to do it justice, it has a great deal more fun in it—and has given us, in this instance, a very hearty laugh.

Scarcely less amusing was the answer of Narvaez to Signor Orense, upon the course intended to be pursued by the Government at Madrid—in the Spanish Cortes—as reported in the *Times* of Wednesday. Seventeen deputies have first prepared his temper for pleasantry by resigning in disgust at his administration.

"Well, my boy," said Signor Orense, "what are your intentions under these popular auspices?" Then up gets the blood-stained minister of terror—whose hatred to *Prim* is rendered somewhat contradictory by the band-box style of his costume—while his violations of grammar equally convey the notion that, *prim* as he looks, he has never studied his *primer*;—then up rises this petit maitre of slaughter, whose *personal* approaches in ill-favour the miserable deformity of his mind—and with grandiloquence proceeds to talk of generosity, and honour, and confidence, and determination, and gratitude, just as if, instead of being nurtured in the caverns of crime he had lived all his life in the palaces of Virtue. Finally, he invokes with a sort of comic blasphemy, which he intends for religious solemnity, the name of the Deity. "That explanation," said he, alluding to a ministerial debate apology, "would have satisfied God Almighty himself, and if those deputies, and Signor Orense were less generous, less merciful, and less difficult to be pleased than the great Disposer of Events—then—surely, &c., &c."—not seeing that by the using the word *less* he was inverting his own meaning, and blaming the earthly for not equalling the heavenly in some of its highest attributes. Though the speech disgusted utterly, the ignorance of the speaker raised a scornful titter, which the sanguinary blunderer was, doubtless, too brutally ignorant to understand. It is at once ludicrous and humiliating to find such men playing the games of empires.

Talking of this Ministerial grammar slaughter—there are reports current in the Irish papers, not of an intent to murder Lindley Murray, after the fashion of many of the English, but to murder Dr. Murray, the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin. Of course, the rumour is a mere party extravaganza—for even the boys of Tipperary are much more likely to murder their grammar than their priests.

But, apropos of priests—there really is a sort of schism among the religionists of Ireland, and the new *Concordat* between Peel and the Pope—*Non-concordat* with the temper of the people. O'Connell has not yet come out about it—nor has he been delivered of his sermon upon the Charitable Bequests Bill. Considering that Dan himself has been all his life receiving Charitable Bequests, and from people very much in want of Charity—he ought to be especially eloquent upon this subject!

To revert to Spain. What a bobbery about Bulwer and Cochrane. The story of "Celebs in Search of a Wife" is not half as good as Cochrane in search of a decoration. And what orations do not the Spaniards make to him.

No sooner sets Cochrane his foot in Madrid,
Than the natives all praise him as high as the *Cid*;
He's a hero, a champion—a God! something more!
So say "Globo," "Heraldo," and "Espectador!"
He goes to Hal Bulwer with Sir, "You'll confess
That at least I am honoured enough by the press;"
Says Bulwer—"They've given you soft-soap enough,

But I think you yourself manufactured the Puff!"
Whereat Cochrane—"You ask'd me to dine—indignation
Now bids me refuse your polite invitation;
Were you not an Envoy, I think I could show
That a Cochrane knows how to return blow for blow;
But as I can't fight you—uncourteous sinner,
Why shiver my crest, if I come to your dinner!"

Then Bulwer, "All I said of puffing was right,
And as you say it's quite out of the cards that we fight,
I advise you to weigh this suggestion of mine,
Kill your monkey—and after all—do come and dine."

But Cochrane—the dumps still upon him—said, "No;
Don't you wish you may get it? I'm hanged if I go."

"Beside, Sir, I tell you (for, as I can't come,
Your grapes must be sour to tooth and to gum),
I tell you, the world says your dinners are bad,
And not half so good as some others I've had
From more than one duped, but grandiloquent Nob, O,
Who believed in "Espectador," *Heraldo*, and "Glo-bo-no."

So the pot boiled over until the Hero of that glorious institution of liberty—the press of Madrid—after having reproached Mr. Bulwer about his feeds, and being himself somewhat snubbed by his Excellency about his introduction at Court—refused to be introduced at all by the unbelieving Ambassador, and so forewent his decoration. He walks about as usual, with his gold watch and appendages, but no Spanish decoration. Never mind—the *Times* of Thursday honoured him with a leader.

The same journal contained a good steam-boat anecdote, which we have done into verse, to make a graceful conclusion to this article:—

To boats and busses racing is for a lark:
Weeds to the coxswain, or the captain's bark,
Who perils life or limb of those he meets
Either upon the waters or the streets.
"What do'st thou—stop them steamers—hold!" "avast!"
Shout'd the coast-guard—"The tug we do go fast,
We aim a racing where the craft are thickest—
We're only trying which can go the quickest."

REMOVED VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO THE GERMAN COURTS.—According to private reports from Berlin, the report is ground that, after her Majesty Queen Victoria and her illustrious consort, will pay a visit in the spring to Potsdam, and that other German Courts may expect the same honour.

THE LATE MURDER AT YARMOUTH.—We recently gave the particulars of the murder of a Mrs. Candler, in Howard-street, Great Yarmouth. Four persons, named Yarham, Royal, Hall, and Maper, have undergone several examinations, on the charge of being concerned in the crime. The result was the committal of all the prisoners for trial.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

THE PAGE OF MURDERS.

On reading an account of three executions for murder and two committals for trial upon one page of Tuesday's Times.

The teeming page of news spread wide
Before us broad and bold,
We raised it with a wond'ring thought
Of what it might unfold
To the mind's curious gaze, that peeps
Through all our social life,
And longs to know its hopes and fears
Its passion and its strife!

How deep-absorbed the spirit grows
In morbid, mad delight,
Over the world-events that stir,
Awaken, and excite!
That move the human river on
With all its changing hues,
And roll upon the greedy mind
Its living stream of news!

Column on column: the eye's wings
Glance on as quick as time,
And pounce, as they were equal prey,
On Folly and on Crime!
No wretched mime too frivolous!
Too dark no dreadful deed!
Through fair and good, through tears
And blood,
The lust is still to read!

We took the page, like other men,
To glean its feast of food,
But with some hope while reading on
To read for *other's* good.
Good-will to all mankind for us
That full broad page unfurl'd,
Oh! not in selfishness, but part
For wisdom and the world!

The Court!—Philosophy may glean
Stern morals near a throne!
Fashion!—the fool-things revels in
Derision of its own—
For fools make game of fools:—the
'Change,
Fat Commerce, and the Marts!
Gold, Trade, and Barter still will find
Altars in human hearts!

We read, and next the glowing world
Of Politics lay bare.
It humbled all our soul to see
How Party grovelled there!
The Church! We paused and wonder'd how
Religion reached its goal,
When Bishops struggled harder for
The Surplice than the Soul!

We turned to petty Courts of Law,
Depravity and drink,
Where Solons *any* so much to prove
How little they must think!
Where Magisterial voice is raised
To Wisdom's highest pitch,
To draw its brave distinctions 'twixt
The erring poor and rich!

At last a horrid march of crime,
And blood, and hate, and rage,
Lay blaring round us!—there they were
Five MURDERS ON ONE PAGE!
While two suspected wretches still
Lingered untried—we saw
Three more of those who wreaked
them lie
Dead in the grasp of Law!

CONVERSION OF PEAT INTO COAL.

It is asserted that an ingenious chemist has succeeded in converting peat into coal within a short period of time. If the works of the great laboratory of nature, perfected during centuries, can thus be performed by art in a few weeks, it will indeed cause a great social and national revolution.

FONTELLE AN EPICURE.

Fontenelle was particularly fond of asparagus dressed with oil, but he was intimately acquainted with an abbé who loved to eat this delicious vegetable served up with butter. One day the abbé dropped in unexpectedly to dinner, and Fontenelle, who had ordered his favourite dish, with great kindness directed that half should be dressed with oil and the rest with butter. The value of this sacrifice is proved by the sequel of the story. The abbé falling down dead in a fit, Fontenelle, without a moment's delay, darted to the top of the stairs, and exclaimed to the cook, "Dress the whole with oil—the whole with oil, as I told you before."

A DANGEROUS COOK SHOP.

The *Merthyr Guardian* says, that in one of the fashionable regions of that town, the keeper of a cook shop designates his establishment "A Hating House."

DERIVATION OF THE WORD RUBRIC.

By the word Rubric is implied a rule or direction. It is derived from the Latin word, "rubrica," which signifies red earth, red ochre, &c., and it is employed to designate the rules which are laid down in the Book of Common Prayer, to direct the minister and people in their performance of divine worship. These rules were formerly printed in red letters, to distinguish them from the prayers and other parts of the liturgy, which were printed in black letters.—*Church of England Magazine*.

A VERY QUICK STEP.

There is a man in New York who dances the Polka with so quick a step that his shadow is out of breath when he stops.

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA.

On looking over some of the papers received by the last Overland Mail, we find that the government in India are engaged in expediting the communication between that country and England. Several steamers are in the course of construction at Bombay. The Bombay steamers are to ply monthly to and from Suez direct; no delay on account of passages or luggage is to be permitted; every consideration being postponed for the sake of the acceleration of the mails. It is expected that the distance between London and Bombay will, throughout the fair season, be on all occasions accomplished within about twenty-eight days.

LAKE WINDERMERE.

Windermere is the most extensive lake in England, stretching north and south from Ambleside nearly to the sea in the bay of Morecome, a length of eleven miles by about a mile broad, and comprising a surface of upwards of four thousand five hundred acres. This extensive sheet of water is a hundred and sixteen feet above the level of the sea, and carries from three to five fathoms near the shores to a depth of twenty-five to thirty fathoms towards the middle, and opposite Ecclelrigg Crags to thirty-eight fathoms, over a rocky bottom. It is spotted by an Archipelago of thirteen pretty islets.

BEET-ROOT SUGAR IN FRANCE.

It appears by an official return, that the number of places for the manufacture of beet-root sugar in France, is decreasing. In November last there were thirty less than at the same period of the preceding year, when the number was three hundred and sixteen. The manufactories having sugar in store, but out of work, have decreased in a greater proportion. In November, 1843, there were fifty-nine; in 1844, they were only twenty-six. But the increase of the duty has had very little influence on this decrease of the manufactories, for those that continue to work go on increasing the quantity of their produce.

A GLASS OF ALE AND A YARD OF LAND.

It is not often, perhaps, that a man thinks, when he drinks a half-pint of ale, he is swallowing the price of a square yard of land! Yet so it is. There are 31,700,000 acres of land in England, the rental of which is £30,000,000, or 19s. 2d. per acre. An acre, therefore, at twenty-five years' purchase, is of the value of £23 19s. 2d., or 5750 pence. Divide this by 480, the number of square yards in an acre, and you have a penny and a fifth, as the average value of a square yard of English ground!

IMPROVEMENTS OF THE DAY.

This is indeed a stirring age for improvements in every branch of human industry. At, or nearly arrived at perfection, we hear of and see admirable specimens of printing and copying fine engravings and the letter-press of books, making copyrights worth nothing! There are means of stereotyping, by which a plate may be executed in a few hours, and we believe the whole process of haking be dispensed with. It is said that the new light produced from electricity, has at length been fixed so as to continue, and shine with a lustre never yet approached by other agents.—*Literary Gazette*.

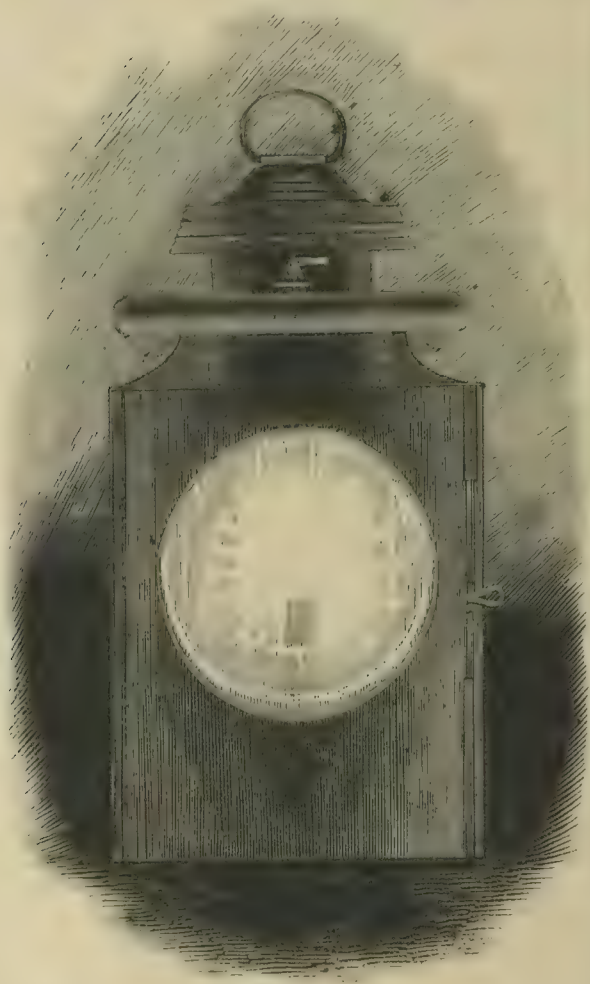
AN ARTISTICAL CON.

Why must a Royal Academician be considered superior to Solomon in splendour?—Because "even Solomon in all his glory was not arr-aged (R.A.'d) like one of these."

AN UNSOPHISTICATED WITNESS.

During the sessions at Wakefield, last week, a witness was asked if he was not a husbandman, when he hesitated for a moment, then coolly replied, amid the laughter of the court, "Nae, sir, I'se not married."

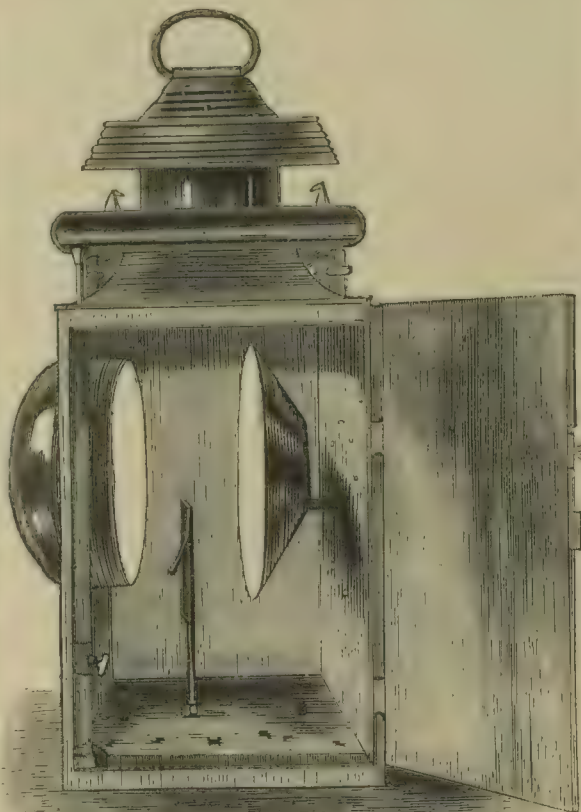
NEW PORTABLE GAS LAMPS FOR RAILWAYS.



PORTABLE GAS LAMP.

A valuable portable gas lamp for general railway use, recently patented by a Mr. Johnstone, of 4, Baker-street, Lloyd-square, was tried for the first time in the early part of the week, on the Eastern Counties Railway, and was found to answer most admirably as a head-light to the engine, and a reading light for third-class passengers. It was again tried, with the most complete success, on Thursday week, upon the South Eastern Railway, at the New Cross Station, before the inventors, Benjamin Cubitt, Esq., the resident engineer of the line, several of the S. E. R. directors, and a numerous company of scientific men.

The lamp, which is on the self-generating principle, produces by the heat of its own flame, sufficient gas or vapour to sustain the requisite amount of light, and without the possibility of explosion. The lamp consists of a small, flat-shaped retort, of about six inches long, an inch broad, and about a quarter of an inch in depth, of thin sheet copper, and having two burners attached to it. Along the top of the retort there runs a piece of copper pipe, which has an opening into the inside of the retort; from either end of the retort, the pipe has a descending branch, one of which, running down the side of the retort for about five inches, bends across at right angles. In the centre of this cross pipe is a small hole, from which the gas escapes in a vertical direction. The opposite arm after descending the side of the retort for about two inches curves to about an inch from the retort, when it also bends across at right angles; a hole for the escape of gas is also drilled in the bent portion of this arm. The bottom tube is the Flame Burner; and the tube of the upper bent arm, the Vapour Burner. The retort is partly filled with a stuffing of cotton, for the production of vapour and prevention of the fluctuation of the light. Fixed upon this retort, between the upper and lower burners, is a shield, up which the gas from the lower burner is projected, and upon the top of it, parallel with the flat side of the retort, runs a piece of copper wire to break the force of the jet of gas. When the lighter is applied to the Lamp, the gas issuing with great force from both burners, would blow out the light, were it not for this wire, which by breaking the force of the jet, causes it to burn, but with a dull red smoky flame; this evil, however, is remedied by the jet of vapour from the upper burner, which is so arranged as to play upon the top of the shield, and to take up in its flame the unconsumed



PORTABLE GAS LAMP—INTERIOR.

carbon produced by the obstruction caused to the lower jet by the wire. The combination of the two jets producing a most intense light. When a large jet of flame is required, a small cock is inserted in place of the wire, on the shield. The lower flame is adapted for two purposes, viz., to heat the retort and light the vapour from the upper burner; in a large light, equal to 30 or 40 argand gas burners, the flame for igniting the gas from the vapour burner consists only of small beads of light.

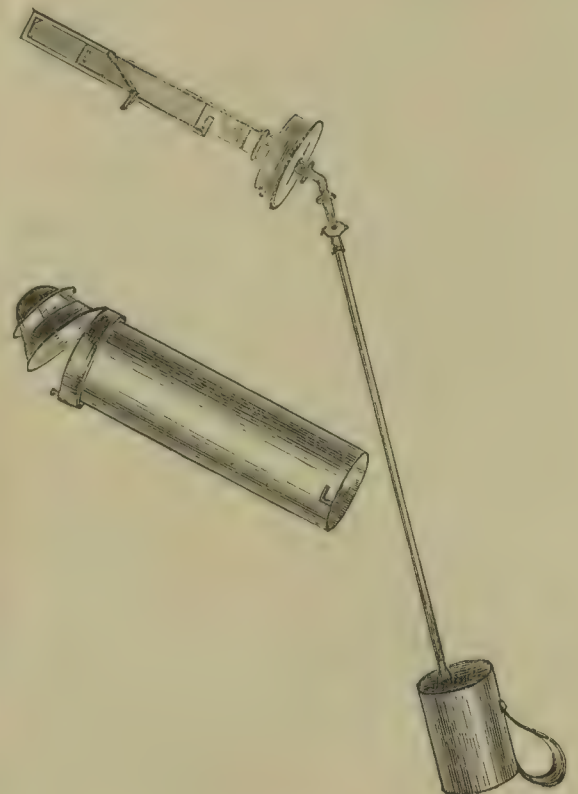
The lighting of the lamp is effected by another similarly constructed, but with the retort in an horizontal position, instead of perpendicular, a form which has been adopted for the greater facility of lighting the lighter, by being thrust between the bars of a grate. After having been in the fire from 15 to 20 seconds, the lighter throws out a most brilliant clear flame, and is then ready for applying to the lamp. A cylindrical shield to protect the light from the wind, having been removed, the flame is directed against the retort of the lamp for about ten seconds, when the peculiarly brilliant "batswing" flame shoots forth, and keeps up its strength of light without intermission. The lamp is fitted with Day's simple, but ingenious invention of the wind-guard, and was introduced by Mr. Piper, of Shoreditch, to whose ability the present invention is highly indebted.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, NEW ASSIZE COURTS, &c.

The building of the New Assize Courts, on the site of the Old Infirmary and surrounding vacant ground in Lime-street, now hastening to completion, will become an honour and an ornament to the town, second to no architectural structure in the kingdom. It was originally intended that the Court House and St. George's Hall should be separate buildings, both contiguous, on the same vacant ground, and that the latter should be built first. So far, indeed, had the Corporation matured this project, that, after a splendid civic procession, on the day of the Coronation of her present Majesty (28th June, 1838), the foundation-stone of the intended Hall was laid with great ceremony and rejoicing. Designs were also procured for both buildings, but subsequent circumstances induced the Town Council to abandon their idea, and no further proceedings were taken until 1841, when, out of a number of designs advertised for a building to include both the Court and the Hall, that of Mr. Harvey Lonsdale Elmes, of London, was selected as the best and most appropriate.

The building is of an oblong form, placed longitudinally north and south; with a handsome portico, surmounted by a pediment at the south end, a splendid projecting colonnade in the centre of the east front, and a semicircular termination at the north end. The central portion of the west front (facing St. John's Churchyard), and which is plainer, but still elegant, is also in projection. The length, taking the external surface of the walls, is 488 feet; the width in the centre, including the projections, 164 feet; and the width at each end, or in other words, of the wings, 124 feet.

The style may be said to be Roman, or, more properly, an harmonious



THE LIGHTER.

combination of the pure Grecian and pure Roman, which last admits of lateral windows (necessary in this country) denied in the first, the purely Grecian temples being lighted solely from the roof.

The east colonnade consists of sixteen fluted Corinthian columns, with rich capitals. The height of each column, including base and capital, is 45 feet; the diameter at the bottom of each, 4 feet 7 inches. These support a fine entablature (there being no pediment), the top of which, from the basis of the columns, is 56 feet 8 inches in height. Between these columns and the main wall there is a clear space, or promenade, 22 feet in width. Large and small panels, alternately, are seen in the back walls, presenting themselves between the capitals. Screen-work is carried up 16 feet 6 inches from the basis of the columns and pilasters on this side.

The South Portico consists of eight similar columns in front, and four behind them, the whole surmounted by a handsome pediment. Within this portico, there is also a wide promenade, slightly interrupted by the central interior columns, which, however, will impart, by forming a double colonnade, a richness and warmth of appearance to this part of the building. The ceiling under the pediment will here be arched in groined-work. The full height, from the datum level to the top of the pediment is 87 feet, 8 inches; and the height from the ground, which here falls 16 feet, as compared with that of the north end, is 105 feet, 8 inches. The wings on this front are enriched by pilasters, corresponding in every point with the outer columns. The capitals will match with those of the columns. There are twelve panels for sculpture between the pilasters at each front, and the same number of pedestals, placed on screen-work, to support figures. The intercolumniations, filled up with the panels, are 13 feet in width all round.

The North End is (as before stated) semicircular, and enriched round the sweep by three-quarter columns, in projection. Between these are fine bold Roman windows, and the ashler-work is relieved by wreaths cut in the stone.

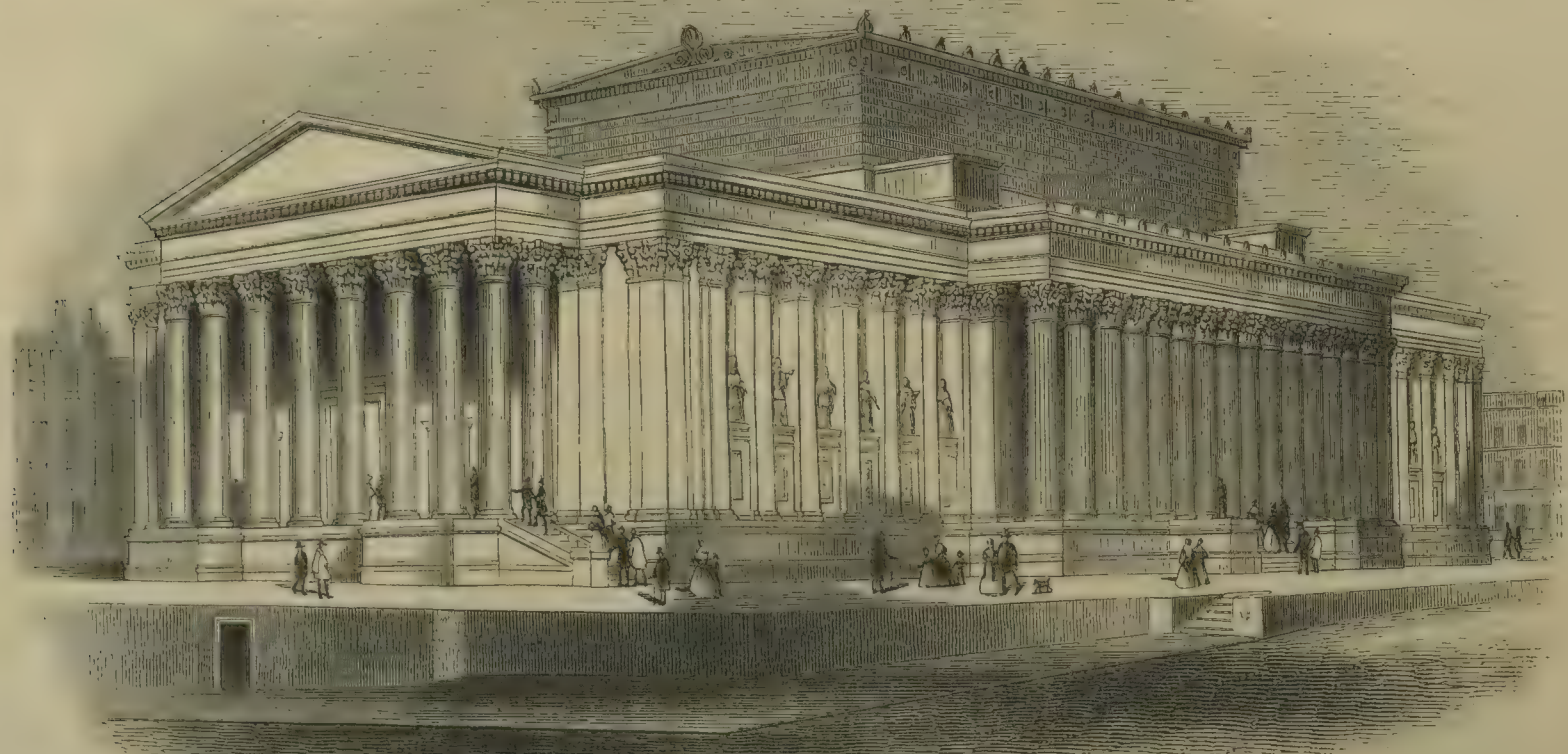
On the West Front (to the Churchyard) the central projection is carried up with screen-work to about one-third of the height, and in that there are handsome architrave windows.

Outside of the main building, and attached to it on the basement, there is a walk or terrace leading from the east portico or colonnade, to the south portico. A splendid external flight of stairs, longitudinal with the building, will lead to the grand entrance at that side. Steps will also lead to these, to a certain height, at each end—these returning themselves against their respective pedestals.

The entire building is elevated on a podium, with fine bold mouldings. The only part of the building that rises above the general exterior elevation is St. George's Hall, which is in the centre, and the walls of which are carried 34 feet above the entablature, forming an oblong square, rich in corresponding architectural embellishment.

As seen from almost any open point, but more particularly from Lime-street, a little to the south of the Railway Station (where the east front and south end will be caught at one view), we entertain no doubt but the whole will present one of the most commanding and elegant piles in Europe.

—Abridged from the *Liverpool Standard*.



ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LIVERPOOL.



NEW CHURCH AT SURBITON, KINGSTON-ON-RAILWAY.

NEW CHURCH AT SURBITON, KINGSTON-ON-RAILWAY, SURREY.

This church has lately been erected at Surbiton, a new town, adjoining the London and Southampton Railway. The style preserved throughout the erection is a description of the Gothic, observed in the fifteenth century; the shape being cruciform. The exterior is composed of rough Sneaton stone, with wrought freestone quoins and mouldings. The tower, as will be observed, is square, with the centre highly finished with pinnacles. The greater part of the windows are filled with painted glass of rich design. On the east windows are figures of the twelve Apostles, given by Mr. Stevens, one of the architects; and on the other windows, arms of the donors, &c. The roof, containing labels with Scripture texts, &c., is of wood, showing a por-

tion of the timbers. The edifice affords accommodation for 650 persons, and there are no galleries. The erection of the building cost £5000, which, together with the funds for the endowment, have been generously provided by the proprietors of the town. The edifice is from the design of Messrs. Stevens and Alexander, of Clement's-inn, who have also superintended the erection of the new churches at Herne-hill, Notting-hill, Ramsgate, Farnborough station, &c. &c. Those gentlemen, it may be necessary to add, are the architects to the proprietors of the town. The Rev. S. P. Philips, of Clapham, has been appointed to the incumbency. The general effect is greatly enhanced by the beauty of the position, the church being situate in the most elevated part of the neighbourhood, commanding Richmond and Hampton Court Parks.

THE THEATRES.

We have little to record this week in the way of novelty, at the different houses; and to judge from the crowded state of the theatres generally, the managements will not see the necessity of changing their programme of entertainments for some little time to come. As we expected, Covent-garden has played a great card in the production of "Antigone." The interest manifested during its representation, and the *empressement* of the audience are even on the increase: we have seldom seen every portion of the theatre filled as it now is, not merely with respect to numbers, but as regards intelligence and position. Our notice last week was necessarily hurried. Since then, a general remark has been made: it is curious to observe that whilst on the first night, before the curtain rose, it was the general impression that the music alone would preserve the tragedy from condemnation, the reverse proved to be the case. The choruses, owing to the wretched manner in which they were performed, were greeted with unmistakable disapprobation; but the terrible interest and really excellent acting of the tragedy, carried everything before it. Miss Vandenhoff has never achieved a success in London so perfect as that in her present part, and the enthusiasm elicited by her performance increases every night. We take the following from the libretto pertaining to the scene in which Miss Vandenhoff's acting is seen to the greatest advantage. She speaks the words, and there is an accompaniment in the orchestra, appropriate to the sense of the declamation:—

ANTIGONE.
Behold me now, my native citizens,
Treading the pathway to my father's home:
My last bright beams of golden Helios
Will set for ever! Death leads me on
To Acheron, whose dismal stream I cross
To peaceful Hades, there I soon shall rest.
Hymen's hymn never there will sound;
There, no bridal chorus ever will greet me,
I am betrothed to Acheron!

CHORUS.
But worthy of praise, and with honour arrayed,
Death carries thee, a blooming bride, to his bed:
Unchill'd by disease, unscathed by decay,
Unsmote by the sword in hostile affray,
Unfettered by will, thy choice uncontrol'd,
Thou'rt betrothed to the monarch of Hades.

ANTIGONE.
The daughter of the Phrygian Tantalus,
Died horribly upon the heights of Sipylus.
Like the ivy's winding stem,
The sprouting rock entwines and clasps her.

Restless falls the rain on her brow,
Freezing, it changes to snow.
And, 'tis reported, the griefs of her soul
From her eye-lids incessantly flow.
Thus Death prepares the bed of peace for me!

CHORUS.
Her sons were gods, a goddess was she;
Our fathers were mortal—mortal are we;—
Remember, how gloriously great it will be
To share the fate of immortals!

There is something exceedingly interesting in witnessing a tragedy, written nearly five hundred years before Christ, thus vividly exciting the sympathies of an audience at the present period.

The Adelphi version of Mr. Dickens's Christmas Story—"The Chimes"—continues to be played with increasing success: the serious business is somewhat lightened, and the comic points tell even better than hitherto. We have this week engraved the happy scene in *Toby Teck's* humble dwelling, drawn by Mr. Kenny Meadows.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CHIT CHAT.

MADME. CASTALLAN.—This lady, who is the present *prima donna* at St. Petersburg, is said to be engaged by Mr. Lumley, for the ensuing season, at Her Majesty's Theatre.

LABLACHE.—A second son of Lablache will, it is said, make his *début* during the present Parisian operatic season, on the French boards, as a vocalist. He sang last year at some of the nobility's private parties, and is said to possess a fine voice.

MADME. PERSIANI.—We regret to state it is very doubtful that this accomplished vocalist will visit us next session.

WEBER, THE COMPOSER.—His Majesty the King of Prussia, on the recommendation of Meyerbeer, has ordered that Weber's opera of "Euryanthe" shall be performed in the New Opera House at Berlin. The receipts arising from the performance are to be presented to the committee recently formed at Dresden, for erecting a monument to Weber, whose remains have been removed from England, and interred in his native city.

AUBER.—This favourite and talented composer is in his 60th year, having been born at Caen, in Normandy, in the year 1784. He studied under Cherubini, and was far from possessing a precocious talent, for he was older than Mozart or Weber when he produced his first work—a mass of some beauty, and which he partially introduced afterwards in the more serious part of "Masaniello." In 1819 he began to write for the Comic Opera; in 1828 he produced "La Muette" ("Masaniello") and "Fra Diavolo," which at once established his fame. The following is a list of his principal works, in addition to the two above-named operas:—*La Neige*, *Le Maçon*, *La Fiancée*, *Gustavus*, *Lac des Fees*, *Lestocq*, *Actéon*, *L'Ambassadrice*, *Le Cheval de Bronze*, *La Philtre*, *Le Serment*, *La Bayadiere*, *Le Domino Noir*, *Zanetta*,

Les Diamans de la Couronne, *Le Duc d'Orléans*, *Le Part du Diable*, and lastly, *La Sirène*.

SPONTINI.—This celebrated composer is once more the favourite of fortune; he was lately restored to the favour of the King of Prussia, since which he has been created by the Pope a Count of the Roman States.

TWO MORE OPERAS BY BALFE.—This popular composer has returned to Paris, and is now busily engaged in the composition of another new opera, the libretto of which has been written by M. St. Georges, the author of "La Reine de Chypre," and forwarded to Mr. Bunn, for translation into English. The principal part is intended for Madame Thillon, whose engagement at Drury Lane commences in May next. It is also said that an Italian opera by Balfe, entitled "Elfrida," will be brought out at Her Majesty's Theatre next season. His muse certainly writes *currente calamo*! But it were well to consider the reply of Euripides to a foolish poet who taunted him with writing only three verses in three days. "True," said the bard of Pella; "you may have written 100 verses in three days; but there is this difference between yours and mine: *yours will expire in three days, but mine will live for ever!*"

VIOTTI.—This distinguished violinist having renounced the profession and set up wine-merchant, the circumstance gave rise to the following verses, which were admirably set to music, as a duet, by Dr. Cooke:—

Let Rubini charm the ear,
And sing, as erst, with voice divine,
I to Viotti will adhere—
Instead of music, give me wine.

And yet, perhaps, with wine combined,
Soft music may our joys improve,
Let both together, then, be joined,
And feast we like the gods above.

MEYERBEER.—This celebrated composer's present visit to Paris has, for the fourth season, been deemed *Prophet-ical* of the production of his long expected opera.

RUBINI.—This accomplished tenor has relinquished the management of the Opera at St. Petersburg in favour of Salvi, and is on his way to Paris. It is not improbable that he will visit us next season.

CERITO.—The reported marriage of Cerito with St. Leon is confirmed. The Pope has granted a bull for the union, St. Leon having been converted from Judaism. Cerito has given the fortune she has acquired to her parents. This eminent *danseuse* is engaged at Rome for the Carnival, having lately concluded a few representations at Bologna, where her last appearance created the utmost enthusiasm.

CHESS.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"C. R. L.—e."—His problem shall meet with due attention. The MSS. games purchased by Mr. Walker, are in the handwriting of Mr. Atwood, one of the Philidorians. The whole of these games are incorporated in Mr. Walker's "Chess Studies."
"A. D."—"The Chess Players' Chronicle" is published by Hastings, Carey-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields. The price, 1s. per month.
"J. S."—"Weller."—Problems received.
"G. L. St."—Mr. Kling's problem in our next.
"F. Collier."—"Le Palamede" can be obtained at Messrs. Bossange, by paying one year in advance. Subscription, one guinea.
"John James."—The solution referred to is correct.

"Ignoramus."—In moving your pawn two squares, should you pass one square exposed to the action of your adversary's pawn, your adversary is entitled to arrest, as it were, your pawn in its passage on that square and to capture it.
NOTICE.—We earnestly request our correspondents to send their letters earlier. In future, all communications received after Wednesday morning must remain unanswered till the following week.

Solution to our last.

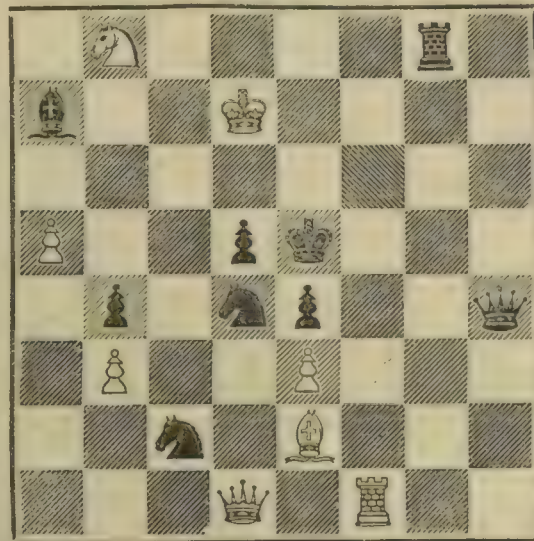
- | WHITE | BLACK |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Rook checks at Q B 8th | King takes Rook |
| 2. Rook to Q B 5th ch | King to Q Kt sq (best) |
| 3. Rook checks at Q B 8th | King takes Rook |
| 4. Queen mates at K R 8th | |

PROBLEM No. 56.

By S. R. C.

White to move and mate in five moves.

WHITE.



BLACK.

Solution in our next.

LONDON AND BLACKWALL RAILWAY.—On Wednesday a special general meeting of the shareholders in the London and Blackwall Railway was held at the London Tavern, for the purpose of authorising the directors to apply to Parliament for power to extend their line through Stratford, Leytonstone, Wanstead, Woodford, Chigwell, Loughton, and Abchurch, to Epping. Mr. J. N. Daniell, the chairman of the board of directors, occupied the chair. A lengthened report was read to the meeting, detailing the probable amount of traffic between the metropolis and the towns near to which or through which it was intended the line should pass, and setting forth the advantages which were likely to result from its connecting the Blackwall Railway with the Eastern Counties and Northern and Eastern lines. From the estimates which had been prepared, the directors were satisfied the cost of the work would not exceed £500,000, upon which the estimated revenue would pay more than 11½ per cent per annum. Mr. Levy strongly objected to the line, and declared the traffic returns to be greatly exaggerated. Dr. Bowring, M.P., Mr. Ross Mangles, M.P., and Mr. W. Tite, however, spoke favourably of the project, and resolutions empowering the directors to take the necessary steps to obtain an Act of Parliament to construct the line were unanimously adopted.

REPEAL OF THE MALT TAX.—A meeting of the central committee (now consisting of upwards of 200 leading agriculturists from all parts of the kingdom) was held at the York Hotel, Bridge-street, on Monday, for the purpose of adopting further measures towards obtaining the sense of the country upon this question. Mr. Fisher Hobbs, of Essex, having been called to the chair, letters were read from the local committees already at work, from which it appeared that a strong and unanimous feeling pervaded the agricultural classes in favour of a total repeal of the tax; and it was consequently resolved, in order to their more effective organization, that a form of petition should be forwarded to them for general adoption, and that a communication with the various chairmen of the market tables in the leading towns throughout the kingdom should be opened, and their cordial co-operation requested.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT AT WOOLWICH.—On Wednesday, while a brick-layer's labourer, of the name of Mahoney, was engaged in carrying slates on his head to the top of the new Marine Barracks, now building at Woolwich, the ladder broke, precipitating him from a height of about forty feet, with frightful velocity to the earth. He was immediately removed to the Royal Marine hospital, where he received every attention, but there is very little hope of his recovery.

FIRE AT CLERKENWELL.—On Thursday morning, about one o'clock, a fire was discovered at the extensive premises known as the Princess Royal, in St. John-street-road, at the corner of Corporation-row. An instant alarm was spread, and after some time, the inmates were aroused from their slumbers, and effected their escape. Owing to the inflammable nature of the materials composing the building, very little time elapsed before flames extended from the bottom to the top of the place. An attempt was made to save some of the valuable furniture contained in the building, but without effect. The flames were extinguished by half-past two o'clock; but by that time the interior of the building was completely destroyed, the bare outer walls only remaining, and even they are in an exceedingly dangerous condition. For some time it was feared that a young man had fallen a victim to the fury of the fire, as he could not be found up to two o'clock; but the survivors hoped that he had not returned home when the outbreak occurred.



SCENE FROM "THE CHIMES," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.—DRAWN BY KENNY MEADOWS.



Moderato con espressione. 8va loco

PIANO-FORTE.

Life is not all a de-sert waste, As those would have us think Who sor-row's cup too of-ten taste, Of joys too rare-ly

drink: For we, whose pul-ses warm-ly beat Tow'rds all whose hands we press, Can make the waste a gar-den

sweet By suc-cour-ing dis-tress. No bound for me of earth or sea, To bid me not to roam, My

na-tion shall be all man-kind, And ev'-ry land my home!

The dearest place shall be the spot
Where first I drew my breath;
Oh! ne'er be that first home forgot,
Till I forget in death.

The sweetest music that I hear,
Still seems a village chime;
And where the warmest smiles appear,
Is still the warmest clime!

No bound for me, of earth or sea,
To bid me not to roam;
My nation shall be all mankind,
And ev'ry land my home!



